

Major to visit Moscow to follow up G7 proposals on market reform

Gorbachev gets technical help but no cash aid

By MARY DEJEVSKY AND MICHAEL BINYON

JOHN Major last night announced a six-point package of measures to help the Soviet Union convert to a market economy, and said he would visit Moscow before the end of the year to follow up the proposals agreed by the Group of Seven leaders.

The prime minister was speaking on what he called an historic day, during which Washington and Moscow settled their differences over the treaty limiting strategic missiles and agreed to meet for the long-postponed Moscow summit at the end of the month.

President Gorbachev, who had a four-hour meeting with the leaders of the seven leading industrial countries, said the Soviet Union wanted to move away from the predominance of the command system. "We wish to provide vital oxygen for society," he said.

Asked how relationship between G7 and Soviet Union might develop, Mr Gorbachev replied: "The ice has started moving, as somebody once put it, and the ice-breaker is on its way."

Mr Major, announcing technical aid — but no cash — for Moscow, said the Soviet Union was being granted special status with the International Monetary Fund and World Bank. The Group of Seven was asking for all international institutions to work closely together and intensify efforts to support the Soviet Union with advice and expertise to help it create a market economy, Mr Major said. They could help work for price decontrol and privatisation.

The meeting agreed on the need to intensify technical assistance, particularly in energy, converting defence industries to civilian output, food distribution and nuclear safety, and efforts would be made to promote trade.

It was agreed that the chairman of the G7 summit should keep in close touch with developments, Mr Major told a press conference after yesterday's meeting at Lancaster House. "There was a general wish that I should visit Moscow before the end of the year. I am happy to do so."

Finance ministers of the G7 would also go to Moscow. Mr Major declared that yesterday was a day which history may see as a landmark: the first step towards helping the Soviet Union become a full member of the world economy.

Mr Gorbachev told the press conference that it was the Soviet choice to continue along the path of reform. Accommodation by the West would be a "major contribution" to stabilisation during a difficult time. Mr Gorbachev said he was not talking about assistance — but a new relationship when the Soviet Union was an organic part of the world economy.

Earlier President Bush and President Gorbachev announced an agreement on the Strategic Arms Reduction Talks (START) and the decision to hold a summit.

The Moscow summit, originally scheduled for the end of

last year and twice postponed, is expected to take place on July 30 and 31. The announcement came only an hour before Mr Gorbachev joined G7 leaders to discuss possible Western assistance to the Soviet economy.

Mr Major, making the opening address at the historic meeting between Mr Gorbachev and the G7 leaders, promised that the world's richest industrial nations would do what they could to help restore the Soviet Union's crippled economy. But Mr Major emphasised that the key to success rested with the Soviet people.

At his joint press conference with Mr Gorbachev later, Mr Major called the meeting "very successful and very historic". He said it established a partnership between the G7 and the Soviet Union, and he praised Mr Gorbachev's commitment to practical measures for reform.

Mr Major, in an unusually warm tribute to the Soviet leader, said the G7 recognised the new attitudes and new thinking that he had introduced into his country.

Mr Gorbachev said the Soviet Union did not consider itself an organic part of the world's economy. It was still

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Leaders pledge to finish trade talks

By ANATOLE KALETSKY, ECONOMICS EDITOR

A FIRM pledge to complete the Uruguay round of international trade talks by the end of the year emerged yesterday as a tangible achievement from the Group of Seven economic summit, despite widespread fears that preoccupation with Soviet reform would distract attention from other economic issues.

John Major, the summit chairman, declared that each of the seven leaders had made a personal commitment to bring the trade negotiations to a successful conclusion by the year end. To achieve this goal, which had been agreed only after a "frank and forceful debate", progress would have to be made by negotiators in Geneva "within a matter of weeks", the prime minister said. If the talks remained deadlocked, a further special summit might be convened.

Mr Major, who had identified a breakthrough in the

trade talks as his main economic objective for the summit, was delighted to have saved the London meeting from being hijacked by the Soviet issue. British officials also claimed an important victory on debt relief to the poorest developing countries, a cause which Mr Major had championed since he became Chancellor two years ago.

Officials indicated that President Bush had recognised the need to give Europe and Japan more time to ease their agricultural distortions, while European national leaders had accepted the need to co-operate with the European Commission proposals to replace gradually the common agricultural policy's (CAP) import barriers and export subsidies with direct income support for farmers.

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Under guard: John Major greets Mikhail Gorbachev at Lancaster House and Raisa Gorbacheva receives a rabbit from a Great Ormond Street hospital patient



Lamont rejects claims of bank overcharging

HIGH street banks were yesterday cleared by Norman Lamont, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, of allegations that they operate a cartel and overcharge small businesses. Mr Lamont warned them, however, that they must draw up a code of conduct for their business customers.

The eight high street banks will be the subject of a progress check by the Treasury in six months' time. A report from the Bank of England and the Treasury into complaints that account charges had increased by up to

55 per cent in the last year has now been sent to the Office of Fair Trading so that it can look more closely at allegations of charge-fixing.

The report shows, however, that almost three-quarters of small businesses are receiving the full benefit of reductions in interest rates, and that the accusation that banks are prolonging the recession through overcharging is unjustified. The banks have welcomed the report and agreed to produce the codes.

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Labour MPs say never on a Friday

By PHILIP WEBSTER
CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Parliamentary Labour Party voted yesterday that Friday should be struck from the parliamentary calendar, proposing instead that parliamentary business should start three hours earlier on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays so that Fridays could be devoted to their constituencies.

The decision, carried by 34 votes to 16, will now form part of the PLP's submission to the select committee reviewing MPs' hours.

Dennis Skinner, MP for Bolton, described the decision as farcical. "I could not believe what I was hearing," he said. "Here we are, a Labour government in waiting, stacked up with legislation to take us through a full five-year parliament, with radical changes promised in every government department, and the Parliamentary Labour Party goes and calls for a four-day week. It's incredible."

Bruce Grocott, one of three front-benchers who signed the amendment calling for change, said: "There will be no reduction in the overall number of hours. It will simply mean that Commons business is more concentrated." He added that MPs should be in their constituencies on Fridays, sorting out problems.

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Sheikh planned to sell UK assets

By NEIL BENNETT
BANKING CORRESPONDENT

THE Sheikh of Abu Dhabi threatened to withdraw his investment portfolio from Britain in retaliation for the Bank of England's closure of the Bank of Credit and Commerce International.

Sources close to Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan al-Nahyan say he considered ordering the Abu Dhabi Investment Authority to sell its holdings of gilts and shares in Britain when he first heard of BCCI's shutdown.

ADIA has invested substantially in several quoted companies, including the Bank of Scotland and Eurotherm, and is an important investor in the London property market.

A spokesman for the Abu Dhabi authorities said last night that the sheikh had made no public statement that he would disinvest from Britain, and that there were no plans any longer to withdraw the investments.

The sheikh was said to be enraged by the Bank of England's decision to shut BCCI on July 5, without consulting him, while the Abu Dhabi authorities were planning a full reorganisation of the bank. The sheikh's family and the Abu Dhabi government own 77.4 per cent of BCCI.

The Abu Dhabi authorities are already considering legal action against Price Waterhouse, BCCI's auditor, and the Bank of England to recover some of the \$2 billion they are thought to have lost in the collapse of the bank.

Robin Leigh-Pemberton, Governor of the Bank of England, returned from the Gulf yesterday morning with Pierre Jaans, director general of the Luxembourg Monetary Institute. He had travelled there in a last-ditch attempt to persuade the Abu Dhabi authorities that the worldwide closure of BCCI had been justified.

He met representatives of the sheikh, including Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed al-Nahyan, the crown prince and the largest individual shareholder in BCCI, to justify the closure decision.

Mr Leigh-Pemberton will be questioned by the Commons Treasury committee on Tuesday over his supervision of BCCI (Sheila Gunn writes). MPs decided they would hold hearings during the summer recess if they are not satisfied with his answers.

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Leap in fines led BA to ditch Tories

The campaign against airlines flying in bogus asylum-seekers was the last straw for BA, writes Quentin Cowdry

THE government's decision to double fines on airlines for flying in passengers with incorrect travel documents was the last straw for British Airways, it emerged yesterday. It drove Lord King of Warminster, BA's chairman, to cancel donations to the Conservative party.

To date, the airline has paid more than £5million in fines, a sixth of the total imposed since legislation came into force. Several months ago, BA paid about £3 million in outstanding fines in one go after the Treasury solicitor threatened it with legal action.

A senior BA official, who declined to be named, described the decision to rush in an order doubling fines as the "final straw" in a year that has seen the government, to the airline's chagrin, allow three more leading carriers to use Heathrow and reduce BA's landing slots at Tokyo's Narita airport — moves that BA has cited as factors in its profits slump this year.

British Airways dislikes in principle the 1987 Immigration (Carriers Liability) Act, under which the fines can be levied, believing that it puts airline staff in the invidious position of having to act as *de facto* immigration officers. However, its irritation, shared by nearly every airline in the world, has grown into a deep resentment due to what it believes is the harsh, rigid way that the Home Office has enforced the law.

Earlier this year, when it emerged that Kenneth Baker, the home secretary, wanted to double the fines to £2,000-a-passenger as part of a crackdown on bogus asylum-seekers, BA's influential lobbying machine sprang into action. However, on June 2,

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A SARAH WINDRUM DESIGN FOR EHRMAN TAPESTRY



This has to be the original 'Cat that ate the bowl of cream'. You can almost hear it purring with complacency. Designed by Sarah Windrum, the Cat, based on a Russian Blue, sits on a plump cushion surrounded by an assortment of fabrics. The colours throughout are pale and subtle, with a beautiful haze of pastel shades merging into each other. Lush pinks, ivory, cream and off-white together with soft yellows and dove grey.

Measuring 15in x 15in the design is printed in full colour on 12 holes to the inch canvas. It is worked in half-cross or tent stitch and enough wool from the Appleton tapestry range is included to complete the tapestry in either. The kit comes complete with canvas, wool, needle and instruction leaflet. All for £29.95 including post and packing. Use FREPOST — no stamp needed.

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BBC approves a four-letter Book at Bedtime

By MELINDA WITTSTOCK
MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

A FAITHFUL adaptation of James Joyce's *Ulysses*, the controversial modern classic, complete with the sort of strong sexual expletives condemned by the Broadcasting Standards Council yesterday, is to be broadcast on Radio 4 starting next week.

The world's best known swear word, which offends 87 per cent of all radio listeners and television viewers according to a survey published yesterday, will be uttered faithfully by Joyce's Molly Bloom throughout many of the 16 half-hour episodes of *Radio 4's Book at Bedtime*. Radio 4 admitted that it was

"rather a coincidence" that the BBC should announce the radio adaptation on the day that Lord Rees-Mogg, the BSC chairman, told broadcasters they should take cognisance of public complaints about bad language. "We have not avoided the strong language, tone and attitudes adopted by the author but nor again have we over-represented them," said Peter Kavanagh, producer of the *Ulysses* adaptation, which is being heard for the first time on British radio.

Radio 4 said the words were justified by the stature of the novel, adding that it did not fear the wrath of Lord Rees-Mogg's council. *Book at Bedtime*, which serialised *Lady Chatterley's Lover* almost uncut last

January, received only a "handful" of complaints about bad language and sex because "people knew what to expect", a spokesman said.

Although bad language causes more distress than violence or sex, most of the 1,056 interviewed in the council's study said they could accept some bad language, but only in documentaries about certain subjects, such as prison life, and some drama as long as it was broadcast after the 9pm family viewing watershed. *Ulysses* will be broadcast at 11:30 pm.

The council, which has upheld only two bad language complaints out of a total of 82, gave respondents a list of 22 swearwords and asked them to put the words in their order of "strength".

The best known and most widely abused word, "fuck" was at the top with 87 per cent saying they suffered discomfort to hear it on radio or TV.

The word "bastard" upset 50 per cent. Between 10 and 15 per cent are bothered by "Jesus", "God" and "God Almighty", and only 2 per cent take offense at "damn".

The survey also found that the use of bad language by men was considerably more acceptable than its use by women, with virtual unanimity about the unacceptability of children swearing. Older people, particularly older women, are the most offended by both bad language and depictions of sex.

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Rover to shed 1,200 staff as recession hits car sales

By KEVIN EASON, MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

ROVER is to cut more than 1,200 jobs and put 12,000 workers on a four-day week after becoming the latest victim of the deep recession in car sales.

Union leaders were told yesterday that although Rover's share of the British market is growing, the sharp decline in overall sales means that production must be cut. The job cuts will all be among white-collar workers as Rover tries to slim its management structure to Japanese levels. Jobs will go at all of the company's major centres, including Longbridge, in Birmingham, Cowley, near Oxford, and Solihull, which makes Land Rovers and Range Rovers.

Last night, Rover said: "We have compared ourselves with the best in the world, which is the Japanese, and we know we have to reduce the number of white-collar staff workers in relation to the number of production staff."

Talks will start soon on the job losses. Unions said that they were another sign of the intensification of difficulties in the car industry. Norman Evans, senior white-collar officer for the GMB general

union, said: "The government cannot allow this situation to go on. Car manufacturers are cutting jobs constantly, and until there is a relaxation of economic policies, including substantial cuts in interest rates, jobs are in jeopardy."

Workers producing the Rover 200 and 400 series at the company's biggest plant, Longbridge, will start a four-day week when they return from an extended three-week holiday in mid-August. Cowley assembly lines for Montegos and Maestros will be slowed from mid-September.

Rover's move comes after Ford's announcement that, due to the recession in car sales, it was moving workers onto a four-day week at its main Halewood plant on Merseyside, which makes Britain's best-selling car, the Ford Escort, and the Orion.

Rover has been increasing its penetration of the UK market, with its share in the first six months up from 14.1 per cent in 1990 to 15.1 per cent. However, the depression in car sales, down by a quarter so far this year, means that the company's UK sales have fallen from 150,359 to 121,072. Even buoyant export sales have not been enough to prevent production cuts.

A Rover spokesman said: "The weak home market is having its effect, so that although we are doing well in relation to our competitors, there are simply not enough sales there to prevent these cuts in the working week."

Employers should tailor jobs they offer to fit in more with their workers' lifestyles, Michael Howard, the employment secretary, said yesterday (David Young writes). Companies should adopt "family-friendly" policies that let employees benefit from the best of the world of work and the world of family and home, Mr Howard told an employment conference in London.

"It will be those employers who can offer flexible working arrangements who will have the competitive edge in recruiting and retaining employees," Mr Howard said. "Women, in particular, need forward-looking policies on the part of employers if they are to organise their lives successfully. Family-friendly policies are a means of enabling any employee, male or female, to balance his or her commitments."

A new employment department guide to flexible employment, *The Best of Both Worlds*, showed that flexibility worked as well for small firms as for big ones, he said.

Police pay rise of 8.5% expected

PAY rises of about 8.5 per cent for 140,000 police officers are likely to be triggered today — an embarrassment to the government because by the time the increases come into force they may be double the rate of inflation (Philip Bassett writes).

The government will announce this morning the increase in average earnings for May on which police pay rises are based under a pay indexation formula agreed in 1978.

Economic forecasters expect the earnings figure to fall from 8.75 per cent in April to 8.5 per cent in May. Confirming that forecast, the Public Finance Foundation, the pay research arm of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Administration, says an increase based on this figure will give police real pay increases above inflation of 4.5 per cent in 1991-2.

British Telecom yesterday increased its "final" pay offer from 7 to 7.3 per cent for 130,000 staff ahead of today's annual shareholders' meeting.

Nellist denies gifts to Militant fund

By CRAIG SETON

THE Labour MP Dave Nellist, who may be investigated by the party over his alleged links with Militant, yesterday denied giving money to the hard-left organisation's fighting fund.

Mr Nellist, MP for Coventry South East, has said that he is not a member of Militant Tendency, but is coming under increasing pressure publicly to renounce the group after speaking in support of Terry Fields, Labour MP for Liverpool Broadgreen, who is serving a 60-day jail sentence for not paying his poll tax.

Both men have been regarded as Militant sympathisers, and Labour sources have said that the party's new investigation of the group and any links Mr Fields may have with it could lead Joyce Gould, director of organisation, to examine evidence against Mr Nellist.

Yesterday, Mr Nellist said

that he did not give money to Militant, and insisted that support for the Anti-Poll Tax Federation, regarded by Labour moderates as a front for Militant, was not incompatible with Labour party membership.

Mr Nellist faces a possible jail sentence for refusing to pay his poll tax in Coventry. A spokesman for the federation in Coventry said yesterday that the MP had supported its campaign from the beginning. If he were jailed, a campaign would be started in the city for his release.

Mr Nellist said on BBC Radio 4's *The World at One* that he did not believe Labour party members should be expelled for their political beliefs.

In Coventry yesterday, Mr Nellist's supporters said they would fight any attempt by Labour nationally to deselect him.



Flying visit: Air Chief Marshal Sir Thomas Kennedy, left, with Vladimir Soukup, a former pilot, centre, and Major-General Jan Ploc, celebrating the return of the Czechoslovak air force to Britain for the first time since the second world war. Ten of its fighters will be at this weekend's air tattoo at RAF Fairford, Gloucestershire

Jobs firm reports big rise in vacancies

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

ONE of Britain's principal recruitment agencies yesterday reported a 22 per cent increase in job vacancies; today, however, the government will announce a further rise in unemployment.

While the official job vacancy figures to be announced this morning, which measure only about a third of all vacancies in the economy, will not parallel the sharp rise reported by Alfred Marks, the recruitment agency, ministers will be keen on any signs of possible job improvement.

Michael Howard, the employment secretary, will today announce the 15th successive rise in unemployment. City forecasters say it will be in the 60,000 to 70,000 range and may take the total over 2.25 million.

While employment department officials were sceptical about the wider applicability of the Alfred Marks findings across the economy, Tony Martin, the company's chairman, said: "The increase in permanent vacancies could give rise for some very cautious optimism."

Temporary vacancies are not increasing at a time when employment agencies expect they should, although the company said that within its overall 22 per cent rise in permanent vacancies between May and June there were some even higher figures: 66 per cent within the M25 corridor in the southeast, and a 46 per cent increase in London. All regions apart from Yorkshire and the South West had an increase.

But the TUC says today that without emergency action, unemployment is set to rise to 3 million, with massive job losses in all parts of the economy. Union leaders are calling for an emergency package of measures, including more interest rate cuts, more public spending and a more positive approach to training.

Specifically, the TUC wants the government to increase the Public Sector Borrowing Requirement (PSBR) to hold unemployment at 2.5 million this year, arguing that to do so is well within the resources of the UK, which it says has below average borrowing by EC standards.

Today's unemployment figures will heavily understate the number of women out of work, the Campaign for Work pressure group says.

House sales revival fades

By CHRISTOPHER WARMAN, PROPERTY CORRESPONDENT

HOPES of an early revival in the housing market have been scuppered by the deepening recession, which is now hitting traditionally prosperous areas of the South-East including the "Surrey stockbroker belt", the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors says in its latest survey.

In places such as Reigate and Dorking in Surrey, and East Grinstead and Crawley in West Sussex, homeowners are suffering as they see unemployment increasing, a new phenomenon in the area.

Peter Miller, of the institution, said the survey showed that in spite of the good news of a further cut in interest rates, "the effects of economic recession are biting deeply into people's confidence and restricting buyer morale". The

result is that buyers are not exploiting their strong negotiating position even though they, and particularly first-time buyers, have a wide choice of property and the prospect of securing a good deal.

Figures for the quarter to June 30 show that more than one in four of the agents in England and Wales surveyed reported prices still falling. More than two thirds said prices were static and 3 per cent reported a small increase.

A further sign of the depressed market is that in the past three months the average number of properties sold by each agent was 32, little more than two a week, compared with 72 for the equivalent quarter of 1988 at the height of the property boom. The regions most severely affected

by lack of confidence are the South-East and East Midlands, where the real prospect of large-scale blue and white collar redundancies is freezing market activity, particularly in the middle and upper-price range.

Martin Seymour, of the agents Crow Watkin of Reigate, says the market is still weakening with increasing unemployment, in spite of lower interest rates.

In East Grinstead, Philip Hatt, of Halifax Property Services, said that "fears over redundancy and a general lack of confidence has meant that the market has been very sluggish, with the general level of activity well down". An improvement in April and early May had proved to be a "false dawn" reaction to the cut in interest rates.

Richard Eshelby, of Latchmere Properties, Dorking, said that people were frightened of losing their jobs and that the half per cent interest rate cuts were insufficient. "Unless there is a meaningful cut in rates and some sustained good news the upturn will be put back further."

The London market, too, is still depressed, with agents reporting little activity, or, as in parts of north London, a lot of activity but few transactions proceeding to exchange of contracts — the result of cold feet among potential buyers.

	Dec 1988	Dec 1990	June 1991
Aberdeen	46,103	66,887	60,725
Bradford	33,164	47,984	47,660
Chester	54,029	73,336	69,186
Coventry	60,362	48,091	53,819
Derby	50,772	62,808	51,975
Glasgow	47,514	63,205	59,682
Hull	31,807	44,218	45,125
Middlesbrough	38,939	52,807	46,842
Nottingham	50,565	57,512	57,282
Oldham	31,870	50,738	46,336
Oxford	106,890	95,061	89,413
Reading	92,915	100,725	85,714
Rochdale	34,317	55,458	45,288
Sarnbrook	167,053	144,045	136,580
Stoke	36,143	57,778	48,944
Tunbridge Wells	85,884	103,498	83,987
York	64,796	68,481	69,348

Source: Halifax Building Society

Museum reshuffle criticised

By SIMON TAIT, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

ENGLISH Heritage has been criticised by a leading archaeologist who is also a member of its own board over plans for London's archaeology.

In a letter to *The Times*, Barry Cunliffe, writing as president of the Society of Antiquaries, says a scheme proposed by English Heritage to take over archaeological planning advice from the Museum of London's two units would rule out a comprehensive service for London. He wants a new body to take responsibility.

English Heritage is to run down core funding of the museum's Greater London archaeology department, which with the department covering the City, is to be replaced by a self-funding unit run by a quantity surveyor.

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Union hails deal on TV commercials

By SIMON TAIT, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

STARS of television commercials such as Maureen Lipman and George Cole stand to be substantially better off thanks to a new deal with advertisers which Equity, the actors' union, is putting to its 46,000 members next month.

Instead of payment being calculated on how often a commercial is televised and where, actors will be paid on a basis of rating: the most watched advertisement will bring the most money for its Equity performers.

The deal, recommended by the Equity Council, has been reached after a year of stormy negotiations which broke down in November.

The advertisers, worried about spiralling costs on the repeat-use system, and fearing that actors would be paid for each showing no matter what time of day or night it was broadcast, decided to make commercials without actors, using

graphics, cartoons and in one case an advertising agency's staff.

Equity, meanwhile, told its members to accept no television advertising work and the solidarity shown by actors persuaded the advertisers to call the union back to the table within a month.

The new agreement settles the advertisers' worries because ratings will be measured across the whole television audience, including cable and satellite viewers. The commercials can be shown as many times as advertisers like over a 13 week period without fear of being bankrupted by repeat fees.

Ian McGarry, who led the negotiations for Equity and succeeds Peter Frowie as general secretary of the union at the end of this month, said: "This scheme would mean that about 80 per cent of the actors will be better off."

Four companies face prosecution for unfit water

By MICHAEL MCCARTHY, ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

FOUR water companies face prosecution by the Drinking Water Inspectorate for supplying water unfit for human consumption, the inspectorate disclosed yesterday on publication of its first annual report.

At least two are from the ten large privatised companies created from the regional water authorities, whose chairmen have all recently received big pay rises, while another is a small local company.

The cases, some of which involved people falling ill, concern the most serious of the 79 incidents which affected or threatened to affect drinking water quality in England and Wales last year, when the inspectorate, a 26-strong division of the environment department, was set up as the auditing body for the water companies' own monitoring of their environmental performance.

Michael Healey, the chief inspector, said yesterday his report showed that drinking water supplied by the 39 English and Welsh companies was "generally of a high standard, and much was of an exceptionally high standard", with the required standards being met in 99 per cent of the 3.3 million tests carried out during the year.

However, the report also reveals that in hundreds of cases companies are being subjected to enforcement proceedings under the 1989 water act, and being required to take remedial action after supplies, in treatment plants, storage tanks or customers' taps, have shown too high a level of pesticide residues, lead, or micro-organisms, indicating the possible presence of disease. In 36 storage reservoirs, which hold water

already treated, the inspectorate is insisting on works by ten companies to remove faecal coliforms, bacteria indicating the presence of human sewage.

Of the 39 companies only four small ones, Cholderton, East Surrey, East Worcestershire and Hartlepool, are facing no enforcement proceedings and can be considered to have a 100 per cent record in water quality.

The prosecutions being considered are a stage further, and if pursued would imply the allegation of negligence on part of the companies' concerned, said Mr Healey, who said he had been advised on legal grounds not to identify them or give details of cases.

Children at risk

Local authorities in London can no longer protect many children at risk from abuse because of spending cuts and a shortage of social workers, the all-party Commons health committee said yesterday. An enquiry by the committee found that the highest proportion of children at risk were in Southwark, Lambeth, Camden, Greenwich, Haringey, Hammersmith and Tower Hamlets.

Dublin envoy

Britain's new ambassador to the Irish Republic is to be David Blatherwick, aged 50. He will take over in September from Sir Nicholas Fenn, who is taking a new position after more than four years in Dublin. Mr Blatherwick, married with two children, was first secretary in Dublin from 1970 to 1973 and became head of the political affairs department at the Northern Ireland Office in Belfast.

Prisoner killed

A category "A" prisoner at Wakefield prison, a top security jail in West Yorkshire, was found stabbed to death in his cell yesterday. Officers found the man, aged 37 from Teesside, in his cell on C-wing at the 1,200-man jail. The victim was a rule 43 prisoner — one considered at risk from other inmates — and was serving a life sentence for rape.

Race trial

Alexander William Galbraith, aged 55, of Cheltenham, accused of inciting race hatred over the selection of John Taylor, a black lawyer, as Tory prospective parliamentary candidate for Cheltenham, was formally committed for trial yesterday. He faces three charges and was remanded on unconditional bail by Cheltenham magistrates for trial at Gloucester crown court on a date to be fixed.

Captain 'failed'

The master of the dredger Bowbelle failed in five ways to ensure a proper lookout was kept on the night it collided with the pleasure boat Marchioness on the Thames with the loss of 51 lives, Anthony Wilcken, for the prosecution, told St Albans crown court. He was opening the retrial of the Bowbelle's master, Douglas Henderson, aged 33. Henderson denies charges under the Merchant Shipping Act.

Stallone libel

Sylvester Stallone, the actor, accepted substantial undisclosed libel damages yesterday over an article in *The Spectator* which, he said, suggested he was a coward by "ducking the Vietnam war". His solicitor told Mr Justice Drake in the High Court in London that Mr Stallone never sought to evade his call-up. This was accepted by Taki Theodoropoulos, author of the article in February, and *The Spectator*.

Stallone The Times overseas: Australia \$25, NZ \$25, Belgium £14, Canada \$25, Denmark £14, France £14, Germany DM 40, Greece £14, Hong Kong \$25, India £14, Italy £14, Japan ¥2,000, Korea \$25, Luxembourg £14, Netherlands £14, Norway £14, Portugal \$25, Spain \$25, Sweden £14, Switzerland \$25, Taiwan \$25, Thailand \$25, USA \$25, West Germany DM 40.

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2-5 PM (SUBJECT TO LOCAL VARIATION)

Gorman agrees she was two-faced over man she is suing

By ROBIN YOUNG

THE Conservative MP Teresa Gorman yesterday told a High Court judge that she had been two-faced about a Tory businessman she is now suing for libel.

Mrs Gorman, MP for Billericay, told the court that she had written to Anthony Mudd in August 1987 suggesting that he become more closely involved in her constituency association, but then wrote to 375 Tory MPs telling them that the Billericay Conservative Businessmen's Association, of which Mr Mudd was chairman, was not a major fund-raiser or affiliated to the Billericay party.

Mrs Gorman told David Eady, QC, counsel for Mr

Mudd, that she considered the businessman had been operating a scam by misrepresenting his connections with the Conservative party. Mr Justice Drake intervened: "Was it not two-faced to write to others saying he was falsely alleging your support when in fact he had it?" Mrs Gorman replied: "Well, yes."

Earlier she had raised laughter in court with her response to Mr Eady's suggestion that she had kissed Mr Mudd at a fund-raising sherry party in November 1987 while plotting to "cook his goose" behind his back. "Really?" she said, raising her eyebrows. "It is quite a common practice to go all round and kiss people at such

events. I don't know it is altogether hygienic but it is a growing practice."

Mrs Gorman is suing over a mock press release Mr Mudd wrote and circulated to more than a hundred local Tories in May 1988. She complains that it suggested she was vain, and told the jury it was "riddled with a chauvinistic attitude" including an "incredibly unpleasant" allusion to hormone treatment she had received.

Mrs Gorman agreed with Mr Eady that the sherry morning had been a very pleasant occasion and said she would not have expressed her misgivings about Mr Mudd at such an event.

She claimed, though, to have been "insulted and humiliated" at a masked ball at Mr Mudd's house in July 1987, soon after she became MP. "When I arrived Mr Mudd shouted at myself and my husband because we were late. He demanded to know why we had let his guests down and not arrived in time to be in the receiving line."

Mrs Gorman said she was asked to propose a toast after which Mr Mudd said words to the effect that "it was not the sort of speech his clients expected but I was new in the job and perhaps they would have to make allowances."

Mr Eady suggested Mr Mudd had been unhappy because in her toast Mrs Gorman had referred to the shortage of lavatories in the House of Commons. Mrs Gorman replied that guests had been amused by her reference to the fact that there were only five lavatories for 2,500 women. "It is very interesting for a woman MP to discover that the organisation you have entered is so dominated by the interests of the opposite sex that basic facilities are not there," she said.

Mrs Gorman agreed with Mr Eady that in a magazine article she had said "some quite horribly vulgar little people" in her constituency were trying to unseat her as part of a "chauvinistic plot". She said that Mr Mudd had shown little respect for her as an MP, referring to her in his diary as "that silly woman" and saying a chimpanzee could do better.

Mr Mudd, of Little Burstead, Billericay, denies libel. He claims the document was true, fair comment, and protected by privilege. The hearing continues today when Mrs Gorman's cross-examination will continue.



Gorman yesterday: "A common practice to go all round and kiss people"

BR orders air-style black box for trains

By NICK NUTTALL, TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

BLACK box recorders similar to those used on RAF Hawk and Tornado aircraft are to be fitted to a fleet of InterCity trains as part of British Rail's safety improvements following the 1988 Clapham rail disaster enquiry.

The cab-mounted boxes, which should improve dramatically the work of investigators trying to discover the causes of an accident, can record information from more than 70 sensors placed in a locomotive and coaches.

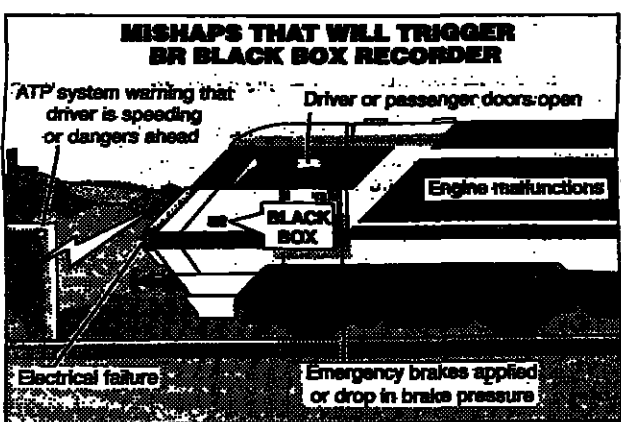
BR plans to use the boxes to record a train's various electrical and mechanical systems over eight-hour periods. They will be triggered to record additional information when potentially hazardous events occur, such as the overheating of axles, the failure of headlights, or when power-assisted doors are left open.

Graham Scott, project engineer at BR's Railway Tech-

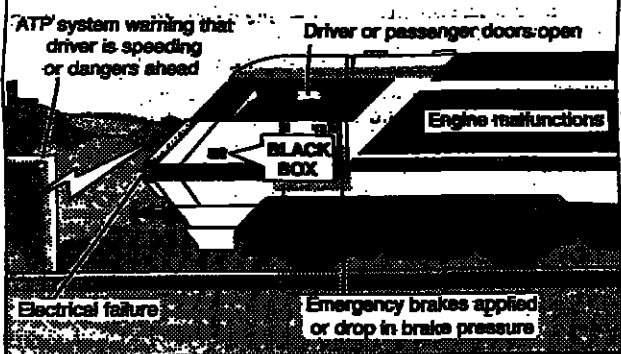
nical Centre in Derby, said that the black boxes would also be linked into the Automatic Train Protection system which is undergoing tests. This beams warnings from trackside beacons on hazards along the line and can apply brakes automatically.

Brian Wilson, project manager with GEC Avionics, one of three companies awarded contracts to build the black boxes, said that they should be able to withstand a railway crash. "Aircraft can fly into mountains at many hundreds of miles an hour where they can experience a shock 1,600 times the force of gravity. It is unlikely that a train crash would exceed 200 to 250 times the force of gravity," he said.

The first black boxes will be fitted in the autumn to ten trains running between Paddington and Bristol. BR plans eventually to fit all trains with the recorders.



MISHAPS THAT WILL TRIGGER BR BLACK BOX RECORDER



FA broke data protection law

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

THE Football Association, Leicester city council and The Spectator were among 17 organisations prosecuted for a breach of the Data Protection Act and named for the first time in the annual report of the Data Protection Registrar yesterday.

Eric Howe, the registrar, said: "I gave fair warning that I would begin naming organisations who were prosecuted. During the 12 months (to May 31, 1991) covered in the report, 17 organisations were taken to court and all but three were found guilty and fined."

Prosecutions are brought for holding personal data without being registered; for failing to keep the registered address up to date; for failing to comply with an enforcement notice; or for using the data for purposes other than those described in the organisation's entry in the register.

The Halifax Building Society was prosecuted but the jury was directed to acquit. The Football Association was given a conditional discharge for two years; The Spectator was fined £160, and Leicester city council was fined £1,000, the report showed.

The report also disclosed that the first transfer prohibition notice has been served aimed at stopping unsolicited mail from certain US-based organisations. The notice has been served on Winsor International, which has supplied addresses of UK residents to American bodies.

In the report Mr Howe also gave a warning that proposals from the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency to introduce photographs on driving licences could lead to national identity cards in all but name. "I do have some concerns about the practical effect of adding a photograph to a document held by over 30 million people," he said.

"It seems inevitable that this will increase the attractiveness of the driving licence as proof of identity in many ordinary everyday situations, such as opening a bank or building society account, hiring garden equipment or videos."

Murdered man's business checked

A TEAM of 20 French policemen, including two senior officers from Paris, is investigating the murder in France of Leslie Chorlton, a British company director aged 47, and his Dutch wife, Bernadette Kleijane, 30 (Peter Victor writes).

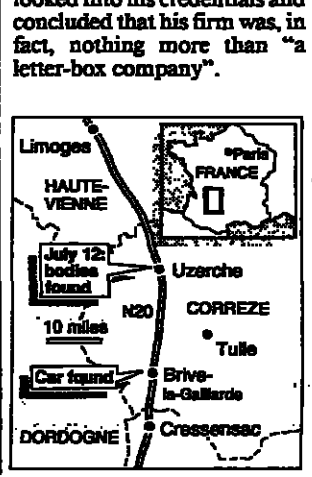
Mr Chorlton's brothers, Alan and Keith, flew to Limoges, southwest France yesterday. The bodies were found in woods at Uzerche, 30 miles from the Chorlton's home in Cressensac, south of Limoges, last Friday by mushroom-pickers. They had been strangled and their feet bound. Their Range Rover was found in Brive-la-Gaillarde, between their home and where their bodies were discovered.

Mr Chorlton, born in Hampshire, and his wife married two years ago. They were last seen a day or two before their death. Police believe their bodies were carried to the wood from elsewhere.

In Britain, former associates of Mr Chorlton said that in 1988 he left his former wife with a new-born son in Great South Wales, to face creditors and moved abroad leaving behind failed businesses.

In France Mr Chorlton ran a company called SBC Choro, which he told officials was a US investment concern based in Atlanta, Georgia.

According to unconfirmed reports, Mr Chorlton's business activities since he arrived in the region in March 1989 are now being examined. Agence France-Presse reported that he had attempted to start several substantial ventures without success. The mayor of the nearby town of Gramat, Jean Dumas, said yesterday that local authorities had looked into his credentials and concluded that his firm was, in fact, nothing more than "a letter-box company".



Second poll-tax protester cleared

By PETER VICTOR

A DEMONSTRATOR was cleared yesterday of throwing missiles at police during anti-poll tax violence in central London, after claiming that he acted in self-defence.

The acquittal is the second such judgment in the past two days. Southwark crown court was told that Michael Conway, aged 34, was seen throwing pieces of paving stone, bricks, bottles and a traffic cone. Mr Conway said that police had acted so outrageously, battering and beating innocent demonstrators, that he acted instinctively in self-defence and threw missiles to stop the policemen charging. He said that he was protecting himself and others.

Mr Conway, a psychology student from West Yorkshire who was studying at a Leeds hospital at the time of the disturbance, called 15 witnesses in his defence, all fellow demonstrators. They confirmed his claim that police had provoked a violent reaction from the crowd and that they were put in such fear that they had to act in self-defence.

The prosecution said that Mr Conway threw up to 15 missiles at police during the disturbance on March 31 last year. Mr Conway conceded that he had thrown at least four objects.

Mr Conway was filmed by a BBC video camera and appeared on more than a dozen photographs taken by police and the press. Many of the pictures showed him masked and throwing the missiles. He was easily recognised by his Miami Dolphin American football shirt, the court was told.

Andrew Campbell, for the prosecution, said that if police had not been wearing riot gear many could have suffered serious injuries from the missiles.

The jury took nearly five hours to acquit Mr Conway of violent disorder. After the hearing a member of the Trafalgar Square Defence Committee said that Mr Conway was extremely relieved at the verdict and that he was consulting with his lawyer about possible legal action.

Scotland Yard said that it would await any complaints and study the court's ruling before deciding whether to initiate an enquiry.

Limited horizons of pupils criticised

By DAVID TYTLER

PRIMARY school children are experts on their own neighbourhoods but do not know where they are in relation to the country as a whole, let alone the world at large, according to a report from the school inspectors published yesterday.

A survey of ten primary schools showed that teachers concentrated their efforts on teaching children about their own locality, in line with the national curriculum requirements that will have to be followed by all five-year-olds from September.

Only a small number of schools had a good collection of suitable local maps and photographs. "The number and quality of atlases and globes were generally poor and there were few large maps of the world," the inspectors said. "The strong emphasis given to local geography contrasts sharply with the lack of attention given to learning about other parts of the UK and more distant places."

National curriculum lessons next year for five-year-olds, they said, were likely to begin "from a relatively low baseline of experience and expertise in many schools".

● The Conservative borough of Wandsworth council, southwest London, was given permission by the High Court yesterday to close a school that wanted to opt out of local authority control.

Parents of the 720 pupils at Walsingham girls' county school near Clapham Common, backed by the governors, had voted in favour of seeking grant-maintained status. Kenneth Clarke, the education secretary, rejected the proposal in April because it would interfere with education planning for the area. The school is due to close in August 1993.

Poor reading and writing standards blamed on TV

By DAVID TYTLER, EDUCATION EDITOR

TELEVISION was blamed yesterday for the failure to raise reading and writing standards after a survey of 17,000 pupils in 1,800 primary and secondary schools.

The School Examinations and Assessment Council report showed that one in five 11-year-olds and one in ten 15-year-olds could not write 20 lines of English without making at least seven mistakes. Girls did better but overall reading standards had not significantly changed since the last survey, in 1983.

Children who performed well in tests in 1988 set by the National Foundation for Educational Research watched less television than those who

did less well. On average, 11-year-olds watched for 3.4 hours a day after school and spent 3.9 hours a week reading for pleasure.

More than 47 per cent of primary school boys and 34 per cent of girls preferred television to books because it required less effort. The report says: "In each case, those who expressed a preference for watching TV obtained significantly lower scores in reading and writing than pupils who took an opposite view."

At secondary level, the anti-reading faction was higher, with 67 per cent of boys and 50 per cent of girls saying they preferred to watch television than to read.

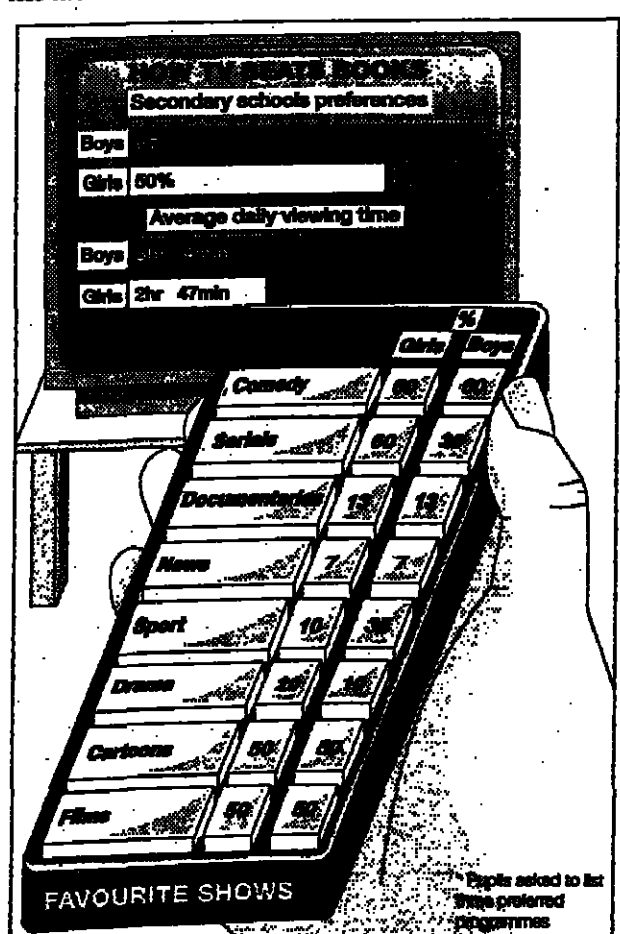
Michael Fallon, the junior education minister who has mounted a one-man campaign to persuade parents to ensure that their children watch less television and read more books, said: "This is the most direct evidence yet of the link between watching television and poor literacy."

● Local education authorities would acquire new responsibilities under a Labour government, Jack Straw, the party's education spokesman, told the authorities' representatives yesterday (John O'Leary writes). Labour ministers would initiate a debate about the balance of power and responsibility between central and local government, schools, parents and a new commission that would monitor education standards.

In a speech to the Labour group meeting at the Council for Local Education Authorities' annual conference in Exeter, Mr Straw contrasted Labour's vision of education management with a Conservative system run by appointed "gauleiters" telling people what was best for them.

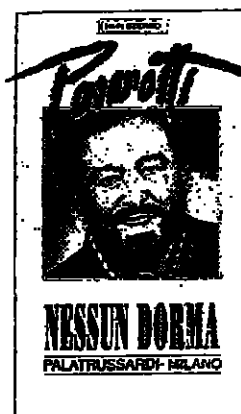
He said that, under Labour, local education authorities would have a duty, rather than a power, to organise services in the most effective way. There would be a national code setting out criteria for reorganising school provision, and local public enquiries arbitrating on disputes.

● The National Union of Teachers yesterday accused Kenneth Clarke, the education secretary, of double standards after he posed for photographs with pupils to celebrate the 100th school to opt out of council control. The union said that children at Arnewood school, New Milton, Hampshire, had been exploited for a "cheap political publicity stunt" to promote the Tories' education policy.



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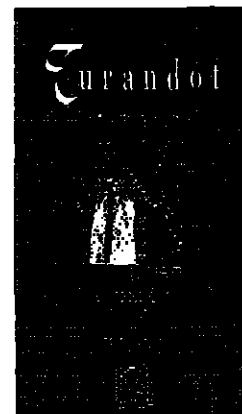
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WOOLWORTHS

Fight to save Naseby site ends in court failure

By JOHN YOUNG

A 17-YEAR campaign to prevent construction of a link road between the A1 and M1 across the historic battlefield of Naseby, in Northamptonshire, ended yesterday in what appeared to be a final defeat for protesters.

In the High Court, Mr Justice Otton dismissed a request by the Society for the Preservation of the Field of the Battle of Naseby for judicial review of a decision to build an access road and two bridges over the proposed link. "Laudable as the cause may be, tenacious as the campaign to preserve the battlefield undoubtedly is, and sympathetic as I may well be to the aims and cause of the society, I have no hesitation in rejecting the arguments put forward," he said.

A public enquiry last year

that concluded that the access road and bridges should be permitted could not be used as a forum for reconsidering objections to the choice of route for the link road itself, which had already been dealt with, Mr Justice Otton said.

The judge also rejected an argument that it was unreasonable to limit environmental assessment to the impact of the access road and bridges, and not to extend it to consideration of the society's preferred alternative route for the link road, to the south of the battlefield of 1645.

The importance of the Battle of Naseby to the nation could never be overestimated, Mr Justice Otton said. Its ramifications were enormous, and extended "to this day".

The society and many oth-

ers had claimed that it was as important, if not more so, than the battles of Hastings, Waterloo and Trafalgar, the judge said. It had marked the climax of the Civil War, when the Royalist forces were put to flight, never again to put up resistance to the Parliamentarians. The outcome was constitutional monarchy, and rule through parliamentary democracy by a body that came to be known as the Mother of Parliaments. The price was high, with 5,000 men and women dying in the field. Since then, the battle site had reverted to nature and was "a fitting haven of peace".

Mr Justice Otton said that the society had never suggested that bridges were not needed over the planned link road. There could be no doubt

that the main purpose of its latest appeal was to reopen the issue of the main route.

The judge rejected the suggestion that the environmental assessment presented to the inquiry inspector did not consider the nation's cultural heritage. It was clear from its text that the importance of the battle site was taken into consideration.

Sir Charles Rowley, the society's chairman, said afterwards: "It's a pretty grim judgment, but I honestly don't think it's the end of the road."

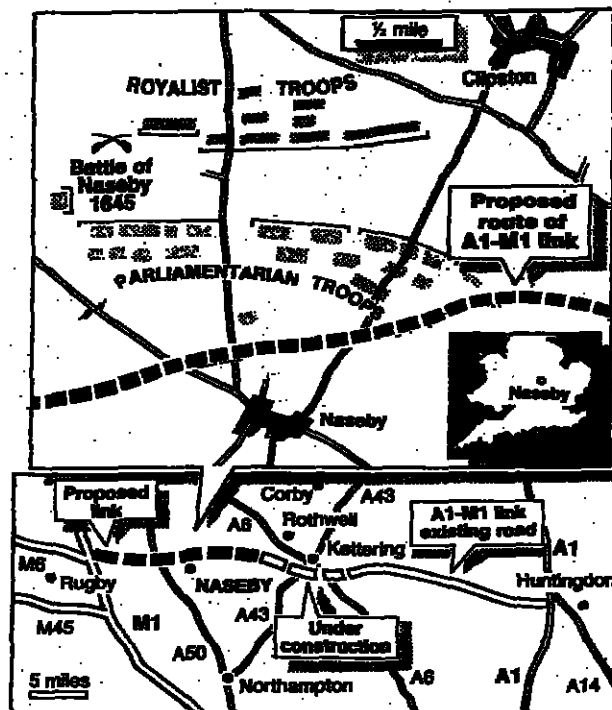
"Obviously we are extremely despondent. I thought we had some good points of law, and I must say I was very surprised that they were so totally rejected."

"I think it's a question of going back to the drawing board and discussing what steps we may be able to take."

Sir Charles, who lives at Naseby Hall, said that it was too early to say whether the society would take the matter to the Court of Appeal or even to the European Court. "We will have to discuss it with our members and with our QC," he said. "It is up to the members to say what they think."

Plans for the link road were first published in 1974 by the environment department, which was then responsible for road building. Two alternative routes were suggested, one crossing the battlefield and the other passing to the south.

Local public opinion was



The Battle of Naseby line-up, the proposed A1-M1 link road and the battlefield's surrounding area



The Battle of Naseby, 1645, as depicted in Lord Clarendon's History of the Rebellion in England



Defeated defender: Sir Charles Rowley, of the Society for the Preservation of the Field of the Battle of Naseby, on the site described in court as "a fitting haven of peace"

sharply divided, but, after a public enquiry the following year, the then Labour government chose the southern route. "While all other factors are evenly balanced, the historical significance is of overriding importance," it said.

However, the conflict rumbled on and flared up again in 1982, when the Conservative government backed a route further north. That move was said to be on the advice of geologists and engineers, which objectors disputed, but the claim made by Lynda Chalker, then junior transport minister, that the main battle area would not be affected was greeted with outrage.

The same claim was made by government witnesses at a public enquiry that lasted 143

days between September 1984 and June 1985, and received an equally hostile reception from experts who accused them of trying to rewrite history.

Austin Woolrich, emeritus professor of history at Lancaster University, said that, by any scholarly reading, the new route undoubtedly bisected the battlefield.

In April 1987, the government announced that it had accepted the enquiry inspector's recommendation of the new route. However, the society challenged the decision in the High Court. The challenge was rejected in August 1988, but then went to the Court of Appeal, which again found for the government.

A further attempt to persuade the government to

change its mind was made last year by the Duke of Wellington, who wrote: "Governments, either through ignorance or insensitivity, are curiously obtuse about the importance of famous battlefields which, in my opinion, should be regarded as hallowed, if not consecrated ground."

Work has since been completed on the eastern section between the A1 and the Kettering by-pass. After yesterday's High Court decision, the transport department said that it hoped that work on the remaining section between Kettering and the M1 would begin in November and be completed by the summer of 1993.

The 350th anniversary of

the battle, in which Prince Rupert led his immortal but ill-fated cavalry charge against the massed ranks of the Roundheads, will be commemorated to the accompaniment of juggernauts roaring across tranquil countryside.

Colonel Hugh Rogers, a military historian, in opposing interference with the battlefield, said: "Naseby determined our present constitution."

Although the Royalist defeat at Naseby led to the discovery of an alleged Papist plot, and to the arraignment and subsequent execution of King Charles for treason, not everyone would agree with Mr Justice Otton's view that it was a watershed in English history.

Police will video speeding drivers

By KEVIN EASON, MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

MOTORISTS who speed on motorways will be pulled over by police in unmarked cars to be shown video film of their law-breaking. Drivers who flout speed limits and those who stay too close to the car in front will be targeted in a motorway safety campaign over the next nine days.

A survey carried out for the campaign found that one motorist in two breaks speed limits, while one in four admits driving too close to the vehicle in front.

Malcolm Rifkind, the transport secretary, and police announced the plan to reduce the motorway toll - 228 deaths and 9,790 injuries in 1989.

The police campaign coincides with the start of the holiday season when millions of motorists take to the motorways. They were warned by Peter Joslin, chief constable for Warwickshire and chairman of the Association of Chief Police Officers, that they face an increased police presence.

Mr Joslin said: "In the past decade we have seen a 45 per cent increase in the number of people killed or injured on our

motorways. While motorways remain among Britain's safest roads, horrific and needless accidents still occur because some people continue to drive irresponsibly. Often they do so knowing they are breaking the law and taking a chance. That is unforgivable and criminal."

Drivers showed strangely contradictory attitudes to their motorway driving in a poll for the insurance company General Accident, with 80 per cent of the 1,010 motorists questioned favouring tougher penalties for breaking the driving laws. However, 64 per cent admitted breaking motorway speed limits and 48 per cent said they broke them by a substantial margin.

A quarter admitted to "lane-hogging", 53 per cent said they drove when tired, and 38 per cent said that they nodded off while driving, figures that will concern Mr Rifkind at a time when scientists are pressing for a new enquiry into drowsiness at the wheel. Reports shown to *The Times* showed that up to one in four motorway accidents could be caused by drivers falling asleep.

Salmon vaccine on trial

By MICHAEL HORNSBY, AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

A NEW vaccine against a fish disease that has resisted effective control for more than 50 years is undergoing its first full-scale commercial trial off the west coast of Scotland and could save Scottish salmon farmers £20 million a year.

Scientists at the marine laboratory in Aberdeen run by the Scottish Office's fisheries and agriculture department have inoculated 1.5 million salmon against furunculosis, a fish disease that causes lesions on the skin and can wipe out a fifth of a farmer's salmon in a year.

The trial is part of research aimed at increasing the resistance of salmon to disease and reducing the use of antibiotics and pesticides whose impact on the environment is causing concern because of the rapid expansion of salmon-farming: 97 per cent of fresh salmon on sale is now farmed.

Scottish salmon farmers expect to produce an estimated £140 million of fish this year. "The value of farmed salmon is now greater than that of beef and sheep combined in the Highlands," William Crowe, of the Scottish Salmon Growers' Association, said.

Tony Ellis, an immunologist at the laboratory, said that controlled trials in tanks had shown the vaccine to work, but the findings needed to be confirmed in full-scale sea trials in which fish would undergo the sort of stresses unavoidable in farming.

If the tests prove successful, the vaccine will be available for commercial use by the end of the year.

The Sun criticised over photo

THE publication by *The Sun* newspaper last week of a photograph showing Prince Andrew naked contravened the new Press Complaints Commission code of conduct, Lord McGregor of Durris, the commission's chairman, said yesterday.

Lord McGregor said that the photograph represented a clear invasion of privacy that was not justified in the public interest. The commission will not make an official ruling because it received no complaints about the photograph.

Fatal stabbing

A murder enquiry began after a man in his forties was found stabbed to death outside a public house in Loughborough, Essex. Police said that he had been attacked with a machete or similar large knife.

Brothers jailed

Two brothers, Ian Hale, aged 32, and Philip Hale, aged 35, both of Chard, Somerset, were jailed for one and three years respectively by Taunton crown court for indecently assaulting children.

Opt-out record

Wold Newton village primary school in Humberside, which has 78 pupils, became the smallest school to gain government approval for grant-maintained status.

Safety slogan

Sussex police began a summer campaign to deter holiday-makers from drink-driving with the slogan: "What a beautiful day to die."

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السلامة

Growing number of churches are hit by crime

By RUTH GLEDHILL
RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS
CORRESPONDENT

AS MANY as half of Britain's 16,000 Anglican churches could suffer arson, vandalism or theft this year, figures disclosed yesterday suggest.

An Anglican church is attacked every four hours, according to the Ecclesiastical Insurance Group (EIG), which insures 95 per cent of them. One in four places of worship, including Anglican churches and those of other denominations, fell victim to crime in 1989, and the company says that proportion is rising and could reach one in two by the end of the year.

Chris Lees, the company's chief surveyor, said: "Today, the scale and sophistication of crime against church property is alarming."

Attacks on Anglican church property alone cost £4.5 million last year. Increasingly, churches are being raided by professional gangs of thieves, with well-planned routes for stolen treasures to overseas markets. The Bishop of St Albans, the Right Rev John Taylor, said: "It's the most despicable of all crimes that people are plundering not just English heritage, but religious prizes of small village communities. I cannot understand the perversity of people who do this virtually as a business."

The Archbishop of York, Dr John Habgood, said: "It's a very sad reflection on the state of society that churches are not regarded as sacrosanct as they used to be."

Thieves used a fork-lift truck to remove a set of 120-year-old stained glass windows from one Hampstead church, according to the Ecclesiastical Insurance Group. Brass items such as crosses, candlesticks, and free-standing offertory boxes are the most obvious targets, but computers, sound systems, and other electrical equipment are also being stolen.

Arson is less frequent than theft and vandalism, but the effects are usually much more serious. Suspected arson in 1987 at St Peter's, Eaton Square, central London, caused £3 million damage.

The Archbishop of Canterbury called yesterday for ways to be agreed within Europe so that the rich do not get richer at the expense of the poor and that help for the needy is not left to private charity.

Dr George Carey said that the Balkan conflicts and the renewal of anti-semitism in Europe were stark reminders that Europe was not yet properly welded by common values rooted in human identity. He was speaking at the Malvern Conference in Worcestershire, organised to discuss the changes in Europe over the past 50 years.

Campaigners fight plan to scrap historic tennis courts

By JOHN YOUNG

AT LUNCHTIME on a warm July day Andrew Aitken and John Hassall, both aged 23, are the only players on the shabby and neglected grass tennis courts in Victoria Park, Leamington Spa.

But what gives poignancy to the scene is that Leamington has strong claims to be the birthplace of lawn tennis and that, if Warwick district council has its way, these last remaining municipal courts, dating from the Victorian era, will be replaced by an indoor bowls arena, more than 200ft square and costing an estimated £1.2 million.

"It's an absolute disgrace," Mr Aitken said. "Plenty of people would use the courts if they were properly looked after. But £1.50 an hour to play on something that isn't even flat? It's different if you play bowls."

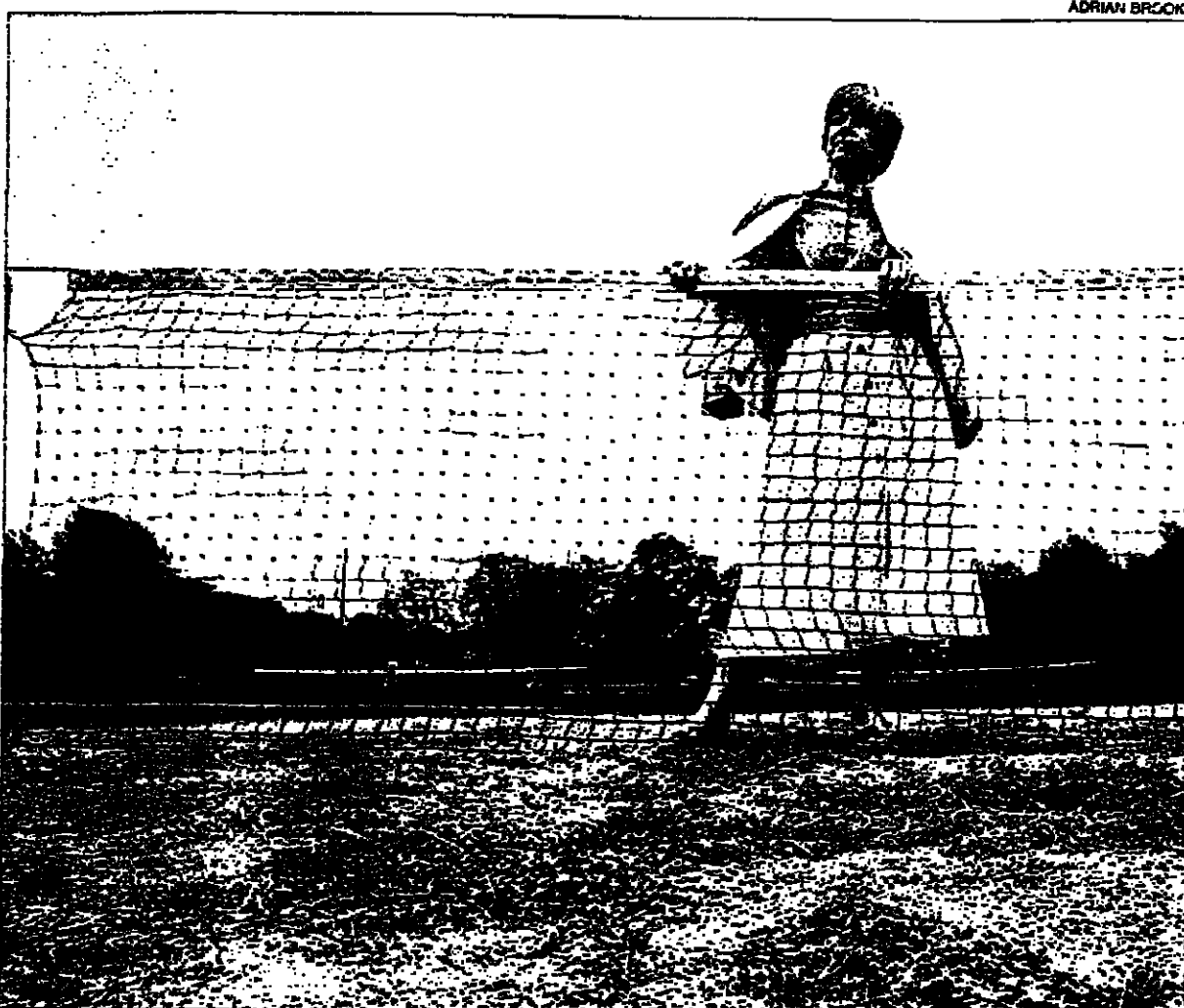
It is easy to see what he means. Only 50 yards away, the municipal bowling greens present a vivid contrast, immaculately maintained with a neat pavilion, flowerbeds and stands ready for next month's English women's championships.

In 1872, Major Harry

Gem, a Birmingham solicitor, and August Perera, a Spanish merchant, moved to Leamington, where they teamed up with two doctors to form the world's first lawn tennis club in the grounds of what is now the Manor House Hotel. The game was a form of the Spanish *pelota* and was generally known as lawn rackets.

When the Wimbledon Croquet and Lawn Tennis Club adopted the game three years later, it adopted several of Major Gem's rules and measurements. Two of Wimbledon's earliest great names were the twins William and Ernest Renshaw who were born in Leamington. Both regularly returned to play in the rival Leamington championships, as did Mand Watson, the first Wimbledon ladies singles champion, who was born a few miles away.

Objectors to the new indoor bowls arena have the support of the Lawn Tennis Association, the Open Spaces Society, the National Playing Fields Association and the Victorian Society. The LTA has written to the council to express its concern at the loss of public



Janet Storrie, who feels an historic urban landscape is under threat, at the nets of Leamington's Victorian courts

courts at a time when it is endeavouring to expand the game at all levels.

Tony Dalton, chairman of the council, says it is keen to bring the world bowls championships to Leamington in 1996 and to establish the town as a centre of bowling excellence. Tennis would not be lost to Leamington, since the development would include six new courts.

Those who claimed that the building would be intrusive and out of scale with its surroundings could rest assured that it would be in what he called "the Leamington architectural style. I think it will fit superbly into the environment of the park," Mr Dalton said.

But Janet Storrie, one of the leading objectors, whose husband Peter is a professional town planner, claims that it will destroy an historic urban landscape, a linear strip of riverside gardens created by the Victorians at the height of the town's popularity as a fashionable health resort.

Mrs Storrie said she had no objection to the principle of a new bowls arena in the right place. "The bowlers all stay in bed and breakfasts and buy sandwiches at Marks & Spencer's. They are not big spenders but they are very welcome. But we can't accept a building the size of a Sainsbury superstore, with

space for 110 cars, right in the middle of a park like this. Mr Dalton says it will only take up 10 per cent of the park. Only 10 per cent."

The Warwickshire Gardens Trust had asked English Heritage to list the linear strip of spa gardens to protect them from development. "But this would be a departure from the normal listing process, so I don't know if it will be successful," Mrs Storrie said.

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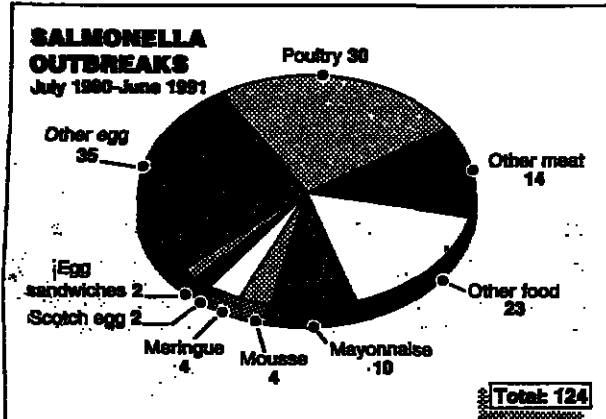
Ministry blamed over salmonella

By KERRY GILLAND
MICHAEL HORNSBY

A SCOTTISH poultry farmer was consulting his lawyers yesterday after his flock of 830 ducks and 270 hens was slaughtered because of a salmonella outbreak.

Douglas Johnston claims that the financial ruin he now faces could have been avoided if the agriculture ministry had taken action against a Kent farm that supplied him with duck chicks after an outbreak of salmonella there about 15 months ago. The ducks are the first to be slaughtered in Britain because of salmonella infection.

Mr Johnston, aged 52, a former senior civil servant with the Inland Revenue, said that the ministry was operating double standards. "The awful thing is that this need never have happened because there is no doubt the ministry knew about a problem with the supplier over a year ago," he said. The ministry said



yesterday that the Kent breeder had suffered an outbreak of salmonella enteritidis and that no warning had been issued to farmers being supplied by him.

It was policy not to slaughter ducks unless salmonella infection could be linked to human food poisoning. There had been no such link in the case of the Kent farmer

whereas eggs from Mr Johnston's flock near Maud, Grampian, had been associated with food poisoning. "There is no evidence to link the two outbreaks," the ministry said.

Mr Johnston said that he and his wife had spent almost two years building up their poultry business and had bought batches of day-old

duck chicks from the Kent supplier. Their business collapsed after three isolated cases of mild food poisoning in Aberdeen were linked to duck eggs supplied by the Johnston family. Salmonella enteritidis was found in the flock.

"What we spent two years building up was wiped out in five hours," Mr Johnston said. "We will get some compensation for the lost birds but our livelihood has gone and we don't have the capital to start up again." He said that he was taking legal advice on possible action against the ministry.

Fifteen tax collectors were identified yesterday as the latest of more than 100 victims of a food poisoning outbreak in Essex and Suffolk. They had eaten egg mayonnaise in snacks bought from a Colchester sandwich bar. The sandwich bar, which closed voluntarily, was cleared by health inspectors yesterday and enquiries moved to a poultry farm near Clacton.

Sadler's Wells may scrap theatre plan

By SIMON TAIT

AMBITIOUS plans for a new Sadler's Wells theatre might have to be replaced by a more modest refurbishment of the existing theatre, in Islington, north London, Stephen Remington, its director, said yesterday.

The new theatre would be built on land adjacent to the existing premises, owned by Thames Water, and be funded partly by commercial development of surrounding land. But Mr Remington said that Sadler's Wells might not be able to afford the estimated £35 million cost of the new theatre. Negotiations, however, are continuing with Thames Water.

The likely cost of refurbishing the theatre is likely to be about £12 million. "It may be that the most realistic path will be a major refurbishment of the existing building, including a substantially lar-

ger stage, flytower and backstage," Mr Remington said. "On the other hand, we anticipate that if agreement is reached with Thames Water, then a significant plot of land could be available on to which a new theatre would certainly fit if it could be paid for."

"The main problem is that there is no strategy for the arts in London which could seize the opportunity for a new theatre."

Mr Remington said that the past year had been a success financially, especially at the box office, with 90 per cent of total income coming from rentals, catering, training activities and ticket sales, together worth £4.3 million. However, only 3 per cent of income was from public subsidy. Last year, £3.25 million was taken at the box office, almost twice the previous best figure.

Marksman jailed for death of neighbour

A firearms expert who shot a neighbour dead after a "tiff" between their children was cleared of murder but found guilty of manslaughter by a jury at the Old Bailey yesterday after claiming it was a tragic accident. He was also cleared of attempted murder over the firing of seven shots at another neighbour.

Mohammed Khan, aged 33, an accountant and qualified marksman, was a member of the Inglebourne Green rifle and pistol club, Essex, and had permits to keep weapons at his home on a council estate. He had two 9mm pistols, a high powered rifle and a .357 Magnum revolver.

Judge Denison, QC, jailed Khan, of Dagenham, for 12 years for manslaughter and nine years, concurrent, for possessing a pistol with intent to endanger life, and said:

"The jury returned verdicts which I can only describe as merciful." He also said: "As a result of your activities one man died and at least two others are lucky to escape death."

A police spokesman said later: "This case again, like the Hungerford massacre, brings into public question the whole procedure of men being permitted to hold firearms and ammunition."

Water warning

Villagers of Lychett Matravers, Dorset, were told not to use the village's water supply for drinking, washing or cooking after it became contaminated with petrol.

Spitting charge

An Aids carrier, aged 28, has been charged with assault after spitting at two police officers. The man, from Plymouth, Devon, was being held at Torquay police station when, it is alleged, he twice spat at officers.

Lothian in red

Lothian Region has blamed the high rate of non-payment of poll tax for its deficit of £20.9 million at March 31.

Mercury alert

Specialists are decontaminating three departments at Leeds university after mercury vapour escaped when a plastic bottle melted in a fire in the engineering geology department.

Judge's writ

Lord Brightman, a former appeal court judge, of Hursbourne Tarrant, Hampshire, has issued a High Court writ against the Winchester district health authority claiming negligence when he was a patient at the Royal Hampshire county hospital last year.

Botham booked

Ian Botham, the cricketer, has been booked to appear with Max Boyce in the pantomime *Jack and the Beanstalk* at Bournemouth this Christmas.

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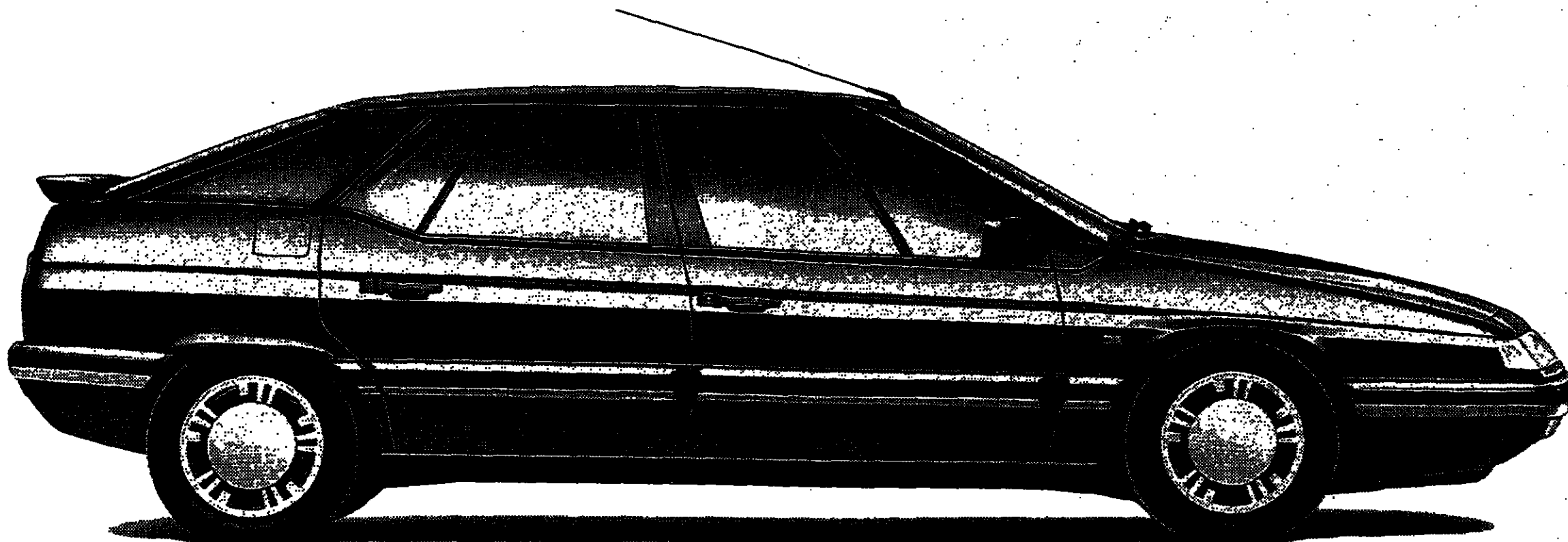
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Kinnock demands development plan for Third World

By PHILIP WEBSTER, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

NEIL Kinnock criticised the leading industrial nations yesterday for failing to gear their economies for growth and called on them to launch a strategic development initiative to help the Third World.

At the same time, John Smith, the shadow Chancellor, said that sustaining growth in the world economy should be the main concern of the strongest industrial nations and added that Labour's economic policy was geared to Europe. Mr Smith said that Britain's problems of unemployment, business failures and bankruptcies were the miserable result of an avoidable home-grown recession.

Mr Kinnock said that the relatively wealthy and free countries of the world must combine in a battle to reduce and conquer poverty and the insecurity that was both its cause and consequence.

In a speech to the Overseas Development Institute, he said that this week's G7 summit should have been beginning a new programme of structural change to build confidence in the economic prospects of the developing world. "It is an inescapable truth that the world economy thrives when the G7 economies thrive," he said.

He urged a development initiative that would include:

- international action to restore growth in the global economy on which the prospects for developing countries depend;
- debt reduction measures that provide incentives to debt-distressed developing countries;
- releasing world trade from its "dangerous path towards protectionism" in richer countries;
- policies to protect the global environment that linked northern energy use to southern poverty;
- a growth in the flow of aid and its effectiveness.

Mr Kinnock said that attention given to the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe was "natural and in many ways necessary". He added: "The needs of the Third World are growing and intensifying. Neglect can only mean increase."

None of the G7 countries had yet achieved the United Nations aid target of 0.7 per cent of GNP — the measure of a country's economic output — although France was close, he said. Britain's contribution was less than half that figure. A Labour government would aim to meet the UN aid target of 0.7 per cent of GNP within five years.

He said that "while some of the most fragile economies in the world have subjected themselves to stringent financial disciplines in an effort to achieve growth, our country and other member countries of the G7 have failed to gear our economies for growth".

He added: "Our economy and those of the other developed nations has been characterised by slow growth and rising unemployment. At the same time, real interest rates have been at a historic high, damaging our own economies and devastating those of the developing world."

Mr Smith, speaking to the Industrial Society, said that Britain faced unprecedented challenges, particularly in the single market after 1992. A new competitive era was just round the corner and, in addition, the economy must adapt to membership of the exchange-rate mechanism, eventually within narrow bands, and possibly in future to the acceptance of a single currency.

"The Labour party", he said, "has framed its economic policy for the Nineties within this European reality."

The emphasis of Labour policy was supply-side strength. For Labour in the Nineties, recovery must be long term and investment-led. "We must invest in plant and machinery, and in the skills of people in the workplace."



Smith: Labour policy geared to Europe

Labour attitude on Rosyth 'reeks of hypocrisy'

By ROBERT MORGAN, PARLIAMENTARY STAFF

TOM King, the defence secretary, hit out last night at defence ministry staff responsible for leaking documents about the future of the Rosyth naval base in Scotland and bitterly attacked Labour's use of them.

Questioned in the Commons, he spoke of the "stench of hypocrisy" surrounding Labour's attitude to Rosyth.

Mr King, who had been attacked by Labour on Tuesday for not making a Commons statement on the future of the base, said yesterday that he had been told that it was "not convenient" for the Opposition. He had been ready to answer an emergency question.

He said that Labour claims, led by Gordon Brown, the shadow industry secretary and local MP, that the Rosyth base was to be closed had caused considerable alarm. People were led to believe that decisions had been taken when they had not.

Against a background of noisy protests from Labour MPs, he said that he hoped that the Leader of the Opposition, who was in his place, would consider the way a leaked document had been used and the fact that Rosyth was a defence ministry site used for the refuelling of nuclear submarines.

He added: "The Leader of the Opposition will realise that these are grave matters and I am sure that he will be concerned that people on his front bench used leaked documents from such a source as though this was not a matter of considerable gravity."

He hoped that those who hoped to be the future government would take seriously the fact that people who might be working for them felt free to leak documents no matter what their nature might be.

He went on to say that job prospects in the defence industry were much more secure under the Conservatives "than under lapsed CND members".

Under a Labour administration, he said, there was no guarantee that a single person in the armed forces or the naval bases or any other base would have a job. "I find the hypocrisy absolutely mind-boggling." To continuing protests, he added: "The stench of hypocrisy reeks across this chamber at this time and I find it particularly nauseating."

On Tuesday, the Speaker, Bernard Weatherill, had made clear his displeasure at a statement being made outside the House before it was made inside. Yesterday, he told MPs that he had been "left out of the equation" in discussions about a statement.

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Ashdown's troops are here to stay

POLITICAL NOTEBOOK
By ROBIN OAKLEY

A year ago the twenty-odd men and women who will gather today in the Greycoat School, Westminster, for a council of war must have been more concerned with alternative employment prospects than with planning their political futures. But the Liberal Democrats who will be instructed today by Paddy Ashdown to ready themselves for an October or November election have their tails up.

Poll ratings of 5 or 6 per cent a year ago have become 16 or 17. More important, the increase has been a steady one, ratcheting up after parliamentary by-election successes such as those at Eastbourne and Ribblesdale. After the local elections this year, the party now controls more councils in Britain than it has done for a quarter of a century.

Candidates have been selected in all but half a dozen or so seats. Under the driving of Des Wilson, the election campaign co-ordinator, the party claims to be on target for the £1.5 million it will need to fight that election, although, as was customary among the Liberals in the past, most of the money will not flow until the election begins.

Paddy Ashdown's "staging posts" strategy of build-

ing steadily the kind of support that will see his party through bad times as well as good seems to be working. But inevitably Liberal Democrat support contains a fair measure of protest vote from. So is not the advance an illusion, will it not disappear at the general election with Ashdown's army suffering once again from the two-party squeeze and the "wasted vote" argument?

There is a growing feeling in academic and political circles that it will not. There is evidence that something like a fifth of the electorate, given any reasonable-looking alternative to one of the two main parties, will prefer to vote for that.

The Liberal Democrats point to several reasons why they should continue to advance. At the last election, they believe, too much time was wasted discussing what they might do in the event of a hung parliament and nobody noticed their policies. This time, they took a deliberate decision to highlight the "balanced parliament" question after their local elections success.

In interview after interview, Mr Ashdown and others set out the bottom line: subject to the election arithmetic, they will open discussions on a deal with either of the main parties on the basis of its programme and the policies they themselves have offered to the electorate. But they will do no deal with anyone who does not offer them a bill — not a Speaker's conference or a referendum — on proportional representation.

The counter-argument to proportional representation,



that it gives excessive power to minority parties, is beginning to make some ground among the chattering classes and Mr Ashdown's party will not have succeeded in burying media concern with what they would do in a hung parliament. But at least they will now have the "we've been through that" excuse for dismissing it briefly come an election.

Normally it takes a general election for a third party leader to make any kind of

breakthrough. Paddy Ashdown, now a figure of genuine political substance at Westminster, will enter this one with the bonus that the Gulf war has already introduced him to a wider public and given him satisfaction ratings ahead of John Major and Neil Kinnock. And Mr Ashdown, his colleagues believe, has succeeded in establishing his party as equidistant between the others, something that never seemed credible while

Mrs Thatcher was in office. Quite deliberately, he did not join Labour in its gibes that Mr Major's succession meant only that the Tory party had switched to "Thatcherism in drag".

That, they believe, will help to win over some soft Tory votes. So, ironically, could the removal of the "fear factor".

Liberal Democrat strategists now believe that the Alliance was wrong to support Tory efforts in 1983 and 1987 to depict Labour as a party in thrall to the hard left. It simply made centre ground voters nervous. Seats that might have fallen to the Alliance did not as nervous centre voters drifted back to the Tories. Mr Kinnock's sanitising of Labour, they believe, has made it easier for the Liberal Democrats to make gains where they are strong.

One consideration that will figure largely in today's Liberal Democrat get-together is their growing belief that the other parties are playing into their hands. The Conservatives have reacted to a blip in the polls by entering a slanging match with Labour.

Mr Ashdown and his crew are convinced that they can only benefit from public revision of at least some of the big two. The more old-fashioned the two-party battle gets, the easier it is for him to present his party as one with a style of politics appropriate to the Nineties. They remain at the mercy of election arithmetic. But there is no doubting their confidence that this time around they are here to stay.

Holliday urged to stay on

Efforts are being made to persuade Professor Sir Fred Holliday not to carry out his announced intention of resigning from the chairmanship of the joint committee co-ordinating the United Kingdom nature conservancy councils.

Lady Blatch, heritage minister, told the Lords that the professor had not finally resigned, that David Trippier, environment protection minister, had met him and that Michael Heseltine, environment secretary, was in touch with him. Ministers knew of the concerns that had led to his announcement.

Pig disease
Controls imposed in response to the outbreak of blue-eared pig disease, centred on Humberside, are to be eased immediately. John Gummer, agriculture minister, announced in a written reply. Government action in response to the disease appeared to have succeeded in containing its spread.

New peer
Robert Jacob Alexander Skidelsky, professor of international studies at Warwick university, was introduced in the Lords as Lord Skidelsky.

Poll tax cash



About 90 per cent of community charge money was collected in the last financial year, Michael Portillo (above), local government minister, said in a written reply.

Parliament today
Commons (2.30): Questions: Agriculture, fisheries and food; prime minister. Child support bill, remaining stages. Lords (3): Dangerous dogs bill, report. Ports bill and Atomic Weapons Establishment bill, third readings.

Gladstone system criticised

By SHEILA GUNN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE parliamentary public spending watchdog crossed swords with Customs and Excise yesterday for delays in modernising the Gladstone method of levying £2 billion a year in beer duty.

Under the system introduced by Gladstone in 1880, the duty is raised on the original gravity of the "worts", the sweet extract produced by mixing malted barley with hot water. Brewers are allowed a 6 per cent wastage allowance to cover losses during production, which reduces the duty paid by £125 million a year.

Customs officials have admitted to MPs that the old system is flawed, but a new method of levying duty on the finished beer will not be introduced until early 1993. The Commons public ac-

counts committee reported: "We believe they could and should have acted more quickly to review the system and address its deficiencies."

Officials believe that in recent years modern production methods have reduced wastage and new types of beer have made it harder to measure original gravity. The new system leaves the responsibility for working out the duty at some early point in the distribution chain. Officials want to link the duty rate more closely with the alcohol content of the finished beer. "It would also allow the unwieldy system of allowances and reliefs to be eliminated and improve cash flow for the brewing industry," the committee said.

□ The committee also criti-

cises the sharp rise in value-added tax arrears, partly because of the recession. However customs officials could not furnish MPs with up-to-date figures. The level of arrears stood at more than £3.3 billion at the end of 1989. The report said: "The department attributed the increase to the unfavourable economic climate." It added: "We are concerned that, however measured, the amounts outstanding, and thus the risk of non-payment, are continuing to rise... We expect them to reduce the level of arrears as soon as possible."

HM Customs and Excise: Beer Duty and Other Matters, Commons public accounts committee thirtieth report (Stationery Office, £7.15)

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MFI

DIPLOMACY

Host Major delivers confident display in most testing arena

By ROBIN OAKLEY, POLITICAL EDITOR

WHETHER or not the London G7 summit proves to have loosened up talks on the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, it has certainly loosened up John Major.

His concluding press conference as G7 host was his most confident performance yet. He was direct, informal, at times almost humorous. And for the first time on the international stage he no longer conveyed that slight haze of wonderment that he was present at such an occasion at all. He has started using the I-word and the job is beginning to fit.

But some things do not change: only a man with the

innate politeness of John Major would have been prompted to reply to an environmental protester hustled screaming out of his press conference.

The sleeves-up London summit was an undoubted success, both for Mr Major and for the organisers. Even the wives enjoyed it.

It wasn't quite the "Major's plan to save the world" of the tabloids but the meetings stuck to the point and produced communiqués of commendably plain language by the standards of these events. The prime minister had given orders to his chief of staff, Nigel Wicks, to cut out the

waffle wherever possible. His statement introducing the document took eight minutes compared with 45 minutes when President Mitterrand was doing the job in Paris two years ago.

Helmut Kohl was effusive in his praise. Rudi Lubbers, the Dutch prime minister who holds the rotating European Community presidency, called Mr Major's work on Gatt "wonderful". As one participant put it: "There were none of those hang-ups you sometimes seem to get with people milling around wondering what should happen next."

More than that, for the first time Britain seemed to get into the spirit of the thing. We can all write cynically about the pre-programming by the sherpas, the mountains of food and wine guzzled by media hordes left thirsting for genuine news and the relentless celebration of the virtues of those present while castigating the sins of those who are not. But these events are showcases for the host countries, given hours of air time all over the world.

The London summit showed that Britain can organise events other than passing out parades and religious enthronements and can do so with flourish and cordial blueness. It was slick, it was efficient, and it was well managed. Buckingham Palace and the fireworks provided the glitz, London's buildings the backdrop.

Douglas Hurd, whose housemasterly style was one of the attractions of the event, said that "there is more meat in this political declaration than in usual on these occasions" and he was right. But Mr Major and his colleagues had some help. With the Gulf war memory not yet faded, the world's politicians are in problem-solving mood. He obtained the language he wanted, committing them all personally to stimulating the Gatt trade talks and he showed his confidence by threatening them with a recall summit if there was any foot-dragging.

The prime minister succeeded, against some French resistance, in bringing the Japanese steadily more into the centre of things and won backing for his arms sales register at the United Nations and for the Anglo-German plan to beef up UN disaster relief operations.

Leading article, page 17
Michael Binyon, page 16
Recovery hunk, page 25

DRUGS

Customs to strengthen co-operation

BRITAIN has persuaded its G7 partners to back a new international anti-drugs initiative which aims to strengthen liaison between customs, airlines and shipping firms (Quentin Cowdry writes).

The initiative, the brainchild of the Customs Co-operation Council which is supported by 111 countries, will seek to provide customs officials with more timely information about freight consignments. Anti-drugs investigators use freight data to construct detailed "profiles" of the way particular traffickers transport drugs, but often the information arrives too late for them to make seizures.

Leading ladies comfort the sick

By JOE JOSEPH

AMERICA'S First Lady, Barbara Bush, joined the Princess of Wales for a visit to Aids patients at the Middlesex Hospital in London yesterday.

Steve, aged 28, an interpreter, took the opportunity to ask Mrs Bush if she could do anything to relax the regulations which restrict travel and immigration to the United States by people with HIV or Aids. He had taught at the University of Indiana and had many friends in the United States whom he would like to see before he died. "Why should I not be able to visit the Grand Canyon before I die?" Steve asked. Mrs Bush kept a discreet diplomatic silence.

Raisa Gorbachev, the wife of the Soviet president, on the other hand, was diplomatically "chatty" when she visited London's Great Ormond Street Hospital for Sick Children yesterday morning. She told Tommy Stevens, aged 10: "This is a pretty good picture, I must tell you," as he used a syringe to squirt paint randomly on to a sheet of paper. "It's a new direction in art." It was. Possibly all over Mrs Gorbachev's plum-coloured suede jacket and checked dress.

Mrs Gorbachev then apparently brushed protocol aside as she sat on a child's chair between Tommy and his eight-year-old sister Jenny. Raisa also acted with grace when Ricky Murray, aged seven, thrust Flopsy, the hospital's resident rabbit, into her arms and she cuddled it. Possibly she was wishing she could have



Caring twosome: the Princess of Wales and Barbara Bush enjoying a visit to the Middlesex Hospital yesterday, where they talked to Aids patients

packed Flopsy into her husband's hat so that he could produce it at his meeting with the G7 summit leaders.

The Princess of Wales, who opened Britain's first

purpose-built ward for Aids sufferers at the Middlesex Hospital four years ago, made an unscheduled stop at the bedside of a dying Aids victim to speak to him and to

try to console his family. The man, aged 40, who had been unconscious for two days, showed no recognition when the princess said: "How are you. I have come to see you."

WEAPONS

Superpowers reach historic pact

By MARTIN FLETCHER in WASHINGTON and MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

PRESIDENTS Bush and Gorbachev yesterday agreed in principle on the first treaty in history to reduce the superpowers' strategic nuclear arsenals.

The agreement to destroy about a third of the Soviet and American strategic warheads has taken nine years to complete.

The Soviet Union will have to "destroy" 897 missiles and bombers, compared to America's 330 delivery systems, according to the London-based International Institute for Strategic Studies. Under the Start counting rules America has 9,680 warheads and the Soviet Union, 10,996, although these figures exclude submarine-launched cruise missiles and hundreds of air-launched bombs.

The new ceiling for each country will be 6,000 warheads, of which only 4,900 can be ballistic, and 1,600 delivery systems. But both sides will be able to top the 6,000 ceiling because Washington's negotiators made sure the treaty contains a loophole for bombers, one of America's strategic strengths. Bombers will be counted as carrying one warhead each, although they can carry more. Those equipped with cruise missiles will be assumed to have a given number of warheads on board.

Sea-launched cruise missiles are exempt from Start. But a side agreement sets a ceiling of 880 missiles each. In 1982, when Start negotiations began, the objective was to cut the warhead stockpile by half. But only the heaviest of the missiles, the Soviet SS18, with 10 warheads, will be cut by 50 per cent, from 308

to 154. America does not have a comparable system.

None of the warheads will be destroyed. They will be stored far away from launchers at locations known to both sides. Missiles and launchers

will be scrapped although they could be converted for space programmes.

The 454-page Start treaty text includes a special protocol on verification. Mobile missile production plants will be

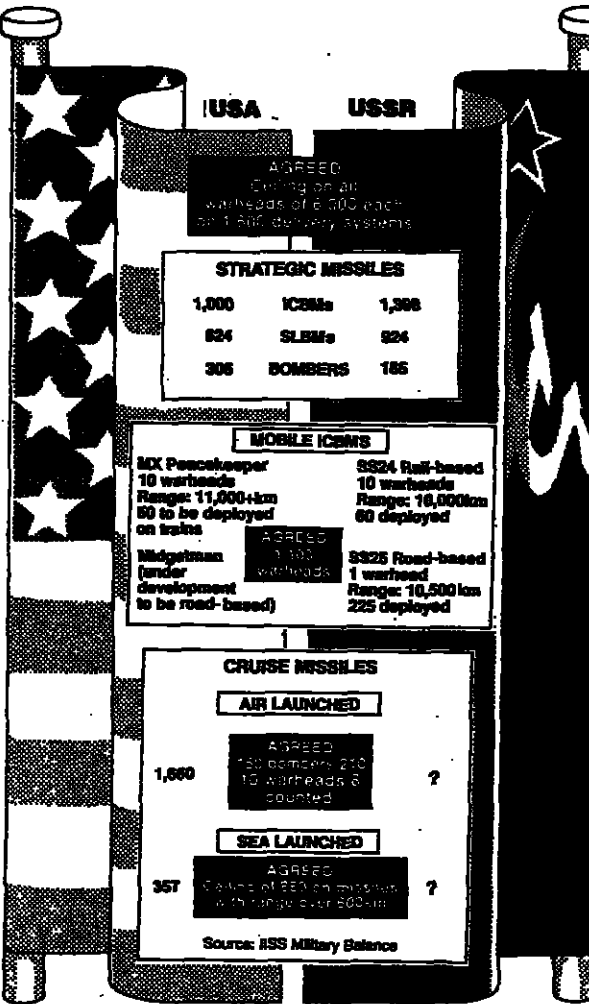
monitored to safeguard against cheating, and the treaty calls for 12 types of on-site inspections that include such measures as counting the number of warheads inside the nose of a ballistic missile, and visiting old silo fields on short notice.

Even though the treaty will leave both sides with enough warheads to destroy each other several times over, it could be the last. For more than two decades nuclear arms control talks have dominated US-Soviet relations, at times representing practically the only civil point of contact between two deeply hostile nations. But with the Cold War's passing, so the pressure to achieve further reductions has largely vanished.

At the June 1990 Washington summit Mr Bush and Mr Gorbachev committed themselves, once Start had been agreed, to "consultations without delay regarding future talks" that would begin "at the earliest possible date". However, there are few in Washington who see that woolly pledge now being fulfilled.

The administration remains concerned about Soviet land-based multiple-warhead missiles, but there is little obvious enthusiasm for embarking on further substantive negotiations in the foreseeable future. The Pentagon would not discuss future plans with the Senate foreign relations committee on Tuesday.

"I cannot exclude the possibility that it is... the last treaty of its kind," Aleksandr Bessmertnykh, the Soviet foreign minister, recently acknowledged.



THIRD WORLD

Debt relief accord follows UK lead

By COLIN NARBROUGH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

THE commitment from the G7 leaders to secure greater debt relief for the world's poorest countries represented a personal success for John Major, as it followed through an initiative he launched last September in Trinidad when he was Chancellor.

Although the economic declaration was not specific about the scale of the debt write-off agreed, President Mitterrand of France said the reduction would be between 50 and 80 per cent. Debt was one of the issues over which officials drafting the final summit declaration laboured into the early hours yesterday, with the British side pressing for increased debt-forgiveness

for the weakest economies, mainly in sub-Saharan Africa.

The Major initiative called for some \$18 billion (£10.9 billion) being written off the outstanding debt of the poorest nations of the world, nearly \$1 billion of which is owed to Britain. The debt would be rescheduled in one go, relief doubled, interest capitalised, and repayments stretched over 25 years. The declaration said that the poorest, most indebted countries need "very special" debt repayment terms. "We agree on additional debt relief measures, on a case by case basis, for these countries, going well beyond the relief already granted under the Toronto terms," the declaration said.

The Toronto terms, agreed at the 1988 economic summit in Canada, established preferential arrangements for 22 countries, including a one-third write-off of outstanding official debt. Mr Major's Trinidad terms, worked out during a Commonwealth conference, call for a two-thirds write-off.

The G7 leaders requested that the Paris Club, an informal group of creditor governments, largely drawn from members of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, continue its discussions on how increased debt relief could best be implemented "promptly". The Paris Club, which meets under the chairmanship of the French finance ministry, is the forum at which common terms are agreed on official bilateral debts, including development aid and export credits.

Officials from the Treasury were pleased that Britain succeeded in inserting "promptly" in the final version of the declaration, but said the document had not fully adopted the Trinidad terms. As worded, the declaration is expected to produce debt-forgiveness short of two-thirds, but "well beyond" one-third.

Barber Conable, the president of the World Bank, the main international agency for channelling aid to developing countries, immediately welcomed the summit pledge, as debt placed a crippling burden on many of the poorest countries. "This should help them in their efforts to achieve sustainable development and alleviate the hunger and poverty that currently blights the lives of millions of people," he stated.

Promise to protect rainforest

The world's seven wealthiest nations promised yesterday to back with money a project to save Brazilian rainforests and said they would reach an accord on climate change in time for a major conference next June.

Jacques Delors, the European Commission president, said there was general agreement that the Group of Seven would contribute \$50 million (£31 million) to save the Amazon rainforests from destruction. But the United States blocked efforts to spell out in the G7 communiqué a commitment to reductions in carbon dioxide, blamed for a warming of the earth's temperatures. (Reuter)

Food for thought

THE Western world's leaders and their vast retinue of diplomats, aides and journalists consumed a mountain of food and drink at the summit - and it did not cost them a penny. Up to 100 British companies "sponsored" the summit, but the Treasury has still been left with a bill of £8 million.

Stepping out

Barbara Bush said she was thrilled at President Gorbachev's invitation to visit Moscow and joked she wanted to go nightclubbing there. On previous trips to the Soviet capital she had only been to state funerals, she said in a press interview. (Reuter)

NOTEBOOK

Sole green protester takes campaign to higher plane

By DAVID WATTS, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT



Chain reaction: Bruno Menser meeting police in his high-level protest in London yesterday

President Gorbachev seemed happy enough with his welcome to London but at the Soviet press centre things were less hospitable.

Correspondents walked in to find a Brit the sole occupant of the place. And he wanted to keep it that way. Who are you? he demanded of the startled hacks.

The same question was running through the minds of the scribes. "Humphries?" came the unlikely reply, media pass discreetly facing inwards. When closer scrutiny was requested, the document was turned outward for a millisecond so that no one might know the true identity of the gentleman so solicitous of the welfare of Soviet journalists.

Herz Kohl's interest in helping Mr Gorbachev's reforms is well known but the summit has raised the question of just how high a price he is prepared to pay. Asked for signs of the depth of the new revolution in the Soviet Union, he cited the change of

name from Leningrad to St Petersburg.

Until the opening of the summit, the Germans had stamped up \$5 billion marks to speed Soviet change on its way. Doubtless aid by any other name would smell as sweet but what price Königsberg?

The Other Summit which also wrapped up its proceedings yesterday clearly felt that *Alice in Wonderland* should have been the dramatic centrepiece of choice. If the real summit is rambling yet predictable, the Other Summit was unfocused and predictable. The laundry lists of the world's problems could hardly be faulted but there was precious little in the way of solutions on offer. They decided to hold their final press conference on the steps of the Methodist Hall against a background of summit cars ferrying participants around at great speed. They might have chosen to attack the waste of all that fossil fuel. Instead the best that they could come up with was the "undemocratic" nature of this meeting

of the leaders of the Western democracies. Perhaps Jonathan Porritt can tell us how many votes he garnered when he was "elected" to lead Friends of the Earth.

A man chained atop one of the lamp standards outside the Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre yesterday did more for the cause of the environment than any amount of earnest debate by The Others. Bruno Menser, a Swiss who lived for seven years among the Penan tribe in Sarawak and who was wanted by the Malaysian police, stayed there all morning with his vast banner complaining about the destruction of the rainforest and human rights in Sarawak. Police removed him soon after lunch. Another Sarawak activist got into Mr Major's press conference and delivered his message loud and clear before he was hustled out. The prime minister crowned his mission with success by immediately making reference to next year's conference on the environment in Brazil. Prince Charles would have approved.

DECLARATION

Nations welcome end of recession

The following are the edited highlights of the economic declaration. *Building World Partnership*, agreed at the London summit.

□ **Economic policy:** A global recession has been avoided. We welcome the fact that there are now increasing signs of economic recovery. Progress has been made too in reducing the largest trade and current account imbalances. Our shared objectives are a sustained recovery and price stability. We therefore commit ourselves to implement fiscal and monetary policies, which, while reflecting the different situations in our countries, provide the basis for lower real interest rates. In this connection, continued progress in reducing budget deficits is essential. This, together with the efforts being made to reduce impediments to private saving, will help generate the increase in global savings needed to meet demands for investment.

□ **International trade:** We commit ourselves to an ambitious, global and balanced package of results from the [Uruguay] Round, with the widest possible participation by both developed and developing countries. The aim of all contracting parties should be to complete the round before the end of 1991. The principal requirement is to move forward urgently in the following areas: a) market access; b) agriculture; c) services; d) intellectual property.

□ **Central and Eastern Europe:** We renew our own firm commitment to support their reform efforts, to forge closer ties with them and to encourage their integration into the international economic system. We welcome the steps being taken by those countries that are implementing International Monetary Fund-supported programmes of macro-economic stabilisation. It is crucial that these programmes are complemented by structural reforms, such as privatisation and restructuring, increasing competition and strengthening property rights. Expanding markets for their exports are vital for the Central and Eastern European countries. We welcome the substantial increases made in exports to market economies and we undertake to improve their access to our markets.

□ **Soviet Union:** We support the moves towards political and economic transformation in the Soviet Union and are ready to assist the integration of the Soviet Union into the world economy. Reform to develop the market economy is essential to create incentives for change and enable the Soviet people to mobilise their own substantial natural and human resources. A clear and agreed framework within which the centre and the republics exercise their responsibilities is fundamental for the success of political and economic reform.

□ **Developing world:** Many of these countries, especially the poorest, need our financial and technical assistance to buttress their own development endeavours. Africa deserves our special attention. We recognise with satisfaction the progress being made under the strengthened debt strategy. The poorest, most indebted countries need very special terms. We agree on the need for additional debt relief measures for these countries. We therefore call on the Paris Club to continue its discussions on how these measures can best be implemented promptly.

JAPAN

Kaifu achieves a new lease of political life

By OUR DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

TOSHIKI Kaifu's summit has gone better than he might have wished. The Japanese prime minister may have been relegated to the second row of the summit group photograph, but his positions have been reflected strongly in the summit's declarations.

Things appear to have gone so well that Mr Kaifu, who came from political obscurity to head the government of the world's second most powerful economy, now has a good chance of retaining his office much longer than had been expected. The smart money predicted that he would be toppled next October. Now, whether he likes it or not, he will be there to make good on some of the summit positions, notably the accelerating progress towards the conclusion of the Uruguay Round of

General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade talks.

Perhaps the most gratifying political element of the summit for the Japanese delegation has been its endorsement of the need for new thinking in East-West relations on the margins of the Pacific as well as in Europe. In urging Mr Gorbachev to settle the issue of the Kurile Islands, seized from Japan after the second world war, the summiters have given that concept a significant push.

This dispute is by no means the sole reason that Tokyo is unhappy about rapid cash assistance for Moscow but its resolution would make things much easier. Mr Kaifu was careful, however, to discount any suggestion that G7 would soon become G8, with the addition of the Soviet Union.

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Wheeler-dealers driven to distraction

Research shows that drivers using car phones make poor business decisions on the road and are slow to react to motorway signals. Mick Hurrell reports

The idea of the car as an electronic office on wheels has obvious attractions for business people. With the latest in-car technology, negotiations can be carried out by telephone, documents can be dealt with by fax, and perhaps soon time can be saved by using the in-car navigation system to avoid traffic jams.

On the face of it, all this should make the professional more efficient. Researchers at Loughborough university have discovered, however, that using in-car technology while driving can seriously impair business negotiating and decision-making skills. A more important discovery is that it can adversely affect driving performance.

Andrew Parkes and Steve Hannigan, the research managers at the Human Science and Advanced Technology Research Institute (Husati), say some individuals cannot process both tasks at the same time and their stress levels increase when they try to do so. Consequently, the amount of information they miss in conversation and about the road ahead is "disturbing".

As a result, the Husati researchers are suggesting training for those expected to use in-car technology professionally, and they warn employers: "Consider how car phones will affect your business."

Husati has developed mobile laboratories to test drivers' behav-

four. Two saloon cars have been fitted with miniature video cameras to record the driver's eye movement and the road ahead, and with equipment to monitor the driver's heartbeat.

The researchers have also produced a questionnaire system, modified from ones used by NASA on astronauts, so that they can compare performance with the driver's own view of it.

The car phone performance of 24 volunteers was tested on the road and compared with that in similar conversations when they used an office telephone, talked to a passenger and spoke to people face to face.

The researchers found that only one in five drivers could conduct negotiations easily by car phone, and that most felt driving at the same time put them under pressure to finish as quickly as possible.

Tests to assess the volunteers' memory, verbal and mathematical reasoning, and deduction and interpretation under these conditions put memory and interpretation scores 20 per cent lower than performance scores on an office telephone.

Mr Parkes says: "Some people have no problem dividing their attention. Some have problems, but make sensible decisions. Others simply make bad decisions."

On top of this, recent work with the Swedish road research laboratories using sophisticated driv-



Too much to handle: researcher Andrew Parkes makes a video recording of his responses while using a car phone behind the wheel

ing simulators revealed that car phone users show an alarming 50 per cent increase in reaction time to motorway signals. The study found, too, that many drivers react to the telephone ringing by taking their foot off the accelerator - giving a sudden deceleration without brake lights to alert others.

There is still some way to go before telephones become fully suitable for in-car applications, the Husati group says. Even most voice-activated, "hands-off" car phones are unsatisfactory, Mr

Parkes says, because the sound quality often is so poor that the driver has to concentrate on discerning what is being said or picks up the handset anyway. Husati's work will intensify safety concerns about car phone design.

In the United States, some groups are urging a moratorium on sales while the safety implications are studied. In Britain, Douglas French, the Tory MP for Gloucester, has failed in attempts to outlaw hand-

held telephones in cars in Britain. Safety problems are not limited to car phones. The use of some recent dashboard-mounted, screen-based navigation systems gives cause for concern, the researchers claim.

Tests at Loughborough and in Berlin showed that most drivers use the systems cautiously. However, some of those monitored driving in urban areas spent 25 per cent of their time looking at the screen and gave it long glances. The researchers found that average

glance duration for map-based systems was almost twice that for ones using symbols and more than 30 per cent longer than for those using text to give the information.

Those using a map had much higher heart rates than those using text, indicating increased mental workload and stress. "Research suggests that 90-95 per cent of a driver's information is received visually, so it is blindingly obvious that problems are caused by taking attention away from the road ahead," Mr Hannigan says.

Vibes are good for the supersound tapes

FOR nearly five years, consumers have been virtually denied a technology that would allow them to record music at home with the quality of compact discs (Matthew May writes).

The widespread introduction of digital recording has always been a thorn in the side of the music industry, fearful of private and wholesale piracy if perfect copies of CDs can be made.

Whether it is the prospect of people borrowing a friend's CDs to tape instead of buying them, or more professional operations producing thousands of bootleg digital

tapes at £1 a copy, record companies have argued that they could lose hundreds of millions of pounds in CD sales. This has made the companies refuse to produce pre-recorded music for digital audio tape (DAT) systems. The results are a small market and high prices for tapes, typically about £600 in Britain.

The stalemate may now be over. An agreement in the United States last week between record producers and the equipment manufacturers for the payment of royalties on digital recorders and tapes was coupled with comments by Sony

that it may be willing to produce machines that conform to a new standard. Under the agreement, which would need Congressional approval, a 2 per cent royalty on the sale of equipment and a 3 per cent royalty on the sale of blank tapes would go to musicians and record companies.

However, it may not be DAT that will replace the millions of conventional tape decks in stereo systems, personal cassette players and car hi-fi. Last year Philips announced a cheaper type of system called digital compact cassette (DCC), due to go on sale

next year at about £300. If sales take off, prices should fall sharply. Unlike DAT, the system can play existing analogue tapes.

Although the digital quality is not as high as that of DAT, the difference is considered academic for all but the most serious audiophiles. Earlier this month Matsushita announced it would join Philips in developing DCC, and Sony said it would consider introducing DCC products.

Consumers may find a third system, costing only £200, on sale next year, also made by Sony, and recording up to 74 minutes.



Top quality: digital tapes on the way for personal stereo use

Queen's Bench Divisional Court

Law Report July 18 1991

Queen's Bench Division

Assault charge requires amendment

Director of Public Prosecutions v Taylor
DPP v Little

Before Lord Justice Mann and Mr Justice Hadden

[Judgment June 27]

Common assault and battery were statutory offences and had been so since the Offences Against the Person Act 1861. Accordingly, they should be charged as being "contrary to section 39 of the Criminal Justice Act 1988" and the specification charges in the indictment should be amended.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court, so held in (i) allowing the prosecution's appeal against the dismissal by Darling J of an information against Keith Richard Taylor and (ii) dismissing the prosecution appeal against the dismissal by Darling J of an information against Stephen Kenneth Little.

Mr Peter Gower for Mr Taylor, Mr Howard Godfrey, QC and Mr Andrew Williams for Mr Little; Mr Andrew Collins, QC, for the DPP in both appeals.

LORD JUSTICE MANN, said that whether or not common assault and battery were statutory offences and how a charge of common assault

should be formulated were two questions of general importance in regard to the summary prosecution of assaults.

Assault and battery were treated in the statute as separate offences and had always been separate offences: see *R v Maitland* [1985] QB 613; *Fagan v Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis* [1969] 1 QB 439; and *R v Williams* (1983) 78 Cr App R 276.

In section 47 of the 1861 Act as including the use of force for without force it would only be in a most unusual case that an assault could occasion actual bodily harm. Such a case would be that of a person who was put in such fear of force being about to be used against him, that he jumped from a high window with injurious consequences. It was too late to contemplate that the familiar offence of "actual bodily harm" was confined to such unusual cases.

The phrase "common assault" had to be, and in practice had long been, construed in a consistent and similar sense. The adjective "common" served only to differentiate particular assaults for which specific provision was made.

LORD JUSTICE MANN, said that whether or not common assault and battery were statutory offences and how a charge of common assault

that section 47 of the 1861 Act created a new statutory offence of assault occasioning actual bodily harm and thereby making statutory and prescribing a penalty for the previously existing common law offence of common assault, was inevitable.

Battery also became a statutory offence. As "assault" encompassed a beating it was absurd to think that Parliament intended that a beating alone, for example of an unconscious or unsuspecting person, should not be within the statutory offence of assault occasioning actual bodily harm and hence also of common assault.

Section 39 of the Criminal Justice Act 1988 was a new provision on mode of trial and was thus properly described as an amendment to the jurisdiction of criminal courts. However, to regard it as having no other effect was to ignore plain language and to attribute to Parliament the extraordinary intention of repealing without re-enactment the statutory offence created by the 1861 Act.

As the offences of common assault and battery were statutory offences and had been since 1861, they should now be charged as being "contrary to section 39 of the Criminal Justice Act 1988".

The specimen charge in *Stone's Justices' Manual 1991* required amendment.

Although duplicity was a matter of form, it was a fundamental matter of form. If an information was duplicitous the prosecutor had to elect on which to proceed and if he did not do so the information had to be dismissed.

An allegation of "assault and battery" in an information was duplicitous. The submission for all but the most serious audiophiles. Earlier this month Matsushita announced it would join Philips in developing DCC, and Sony said it would consider introducing DCC products.

The word "assault" therefore must therefore be taken by virtue of the contrast with "battery" as used in its pure sense of putting in fear of force. The result was an assertion of two offences.

The phrase "assault and battery" was free of the vice by contrast with "battery". However, an unduly accurate and accurate form would avoid the conjunction and use a preposition. Thus "assault by beating" would be immune from argument.

Mr Justice Hadden agreed.

Solicitors: Freeman Johnson, Darlington; Red Taylor & Gill, Barking; CPS, Newcastle upon Tyne and CPS, Newcastle.

Anti-competition rule not applicable

Irish Aerospace (Belgium) NV v European Organisation for the Safety of Air Navigation and Another

Before Mr Justice Hirst

[Judgment June 10]

Regulatory bodies performing the function of a public authority with the power to levy charges were not thereby a commercial organisation and the provisions against anti-competitive practices of article 86 of the EEC Treaty.

The fact that proceedings for the collection of levies had not been instituted in the debtor company's country of residence did not thereby make unlawful detention of the plaintiff's aeroplane to secure the settlement of unpaid charges.

Mr Justice Hirst so held in the Queen's Bench Division when granting the application of the defendant, European Organisation for the Safety of Air Navigation (Eurocontrol) and the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA), to strike out the action for damages by the plaintiff, Irish Aerospace (Belgium) NV.

Mr Richard Southwell, QC and Mr Michael McLaren for the plaintiff; Mr Michael Beloff, QC and Mr Stuart Isaacs, QC for Eurocontrol; Mr Jeremy Sullivan, QC and Mr Peter Harvey for the CAA.

MR JUSTICE HIRST said that the plaintiff owned an aeroplane which prior to its detention was operated under an aircraft lease by Canafra Transportes Aereos, incorporated under the laws of Spain, and which was detained at Luton airport for allegedly unpaid charges due from them to Eurocontrol in respect of air navigation services.

They terminated the lease and claimed damages against the defendants for conversion for the unlawful detention, breach of article 86 of the EEC Treaty by abusing their dominant position in the market and in breach of the obligations imposed on them by the article, and for negligence in breaking their duty of care not to injure the plaintiff's interest in the plane except in so far as unavoidably necessary to secure the payment.

Eurocontrol were an international organisation established under the Brussels Convention of 1960 as amended by the Convention of 1981 to provide and coordinate the provision of air navigation facilities by national bodies such as the CAA.

They were empowered to collect charges in accordance with the Multilateral Agreement Relating to Route Charges made on February 12, 1981 by various contracting states including the UK and Spain.

The defendant's status under English law was regulated under section 24 of the Civil Aviation Act 1982 and Schedule 4 gave it the legal capacity of a body corporate.

The current regulations made under that Act were the Civil Aviation (Routes Charges for Navigation Services) Regulations (SI 1989 No 303) laying down a detailed code headed "Detention and sale of aircraft for unpaid charges".

By article 13 of the multilateral agreement recovery proceedings were to be instituted in the territory of the contracting state where the debtor had his residence.

The plaintiff claimed that commencing proceedings in Spain was therefore a condition precedent. They had not been commenced there and so the detention was unlawful.

The defendants contended that construction of the Convention and multilateral agreement were a matter of public international law and not justiciable in the municipal courts but in any event if they were then in any attempt to establish that a public body was infringing the plaintiff's rights their proper course of action was by way of judicial review.

Aerospace also asserted that the parts of the Act and regulations which dealt with default procedures were to give effect to the treaty obligations of the UK and had relied on Eurocontrol's legal capacity as well as the references to it in section 73(1)(b) and elsewhere in the Act and in the preamble regulations to it.

Those points did not carry the plaintiff very far. Eurocontrol's corporate personality in English law was irrelevant for that purpose.

Section 73(1)(a) was directed to the quantum of charges not to the default provisions and, in so far as it related to Eurocontrol, was explicitly directed to tariffs and not to the default provisions.

Far from supporting the case of the plaintiff, section 74A seemed inimical to it as, in contrast to the other sections and the regulations, there was explicit reference to the multilateral agreement.

Moreover, his Lordship was unable to accept that Mr Southwell's submission that the enactment would have been otiose if the defendant's arguments were right, seeing that Eurocontrol might well have wished to enforce a foreign judgment here where there was no possibility of operating the default provisions, either because the debtor had no aircraft to enforce against or because he was avoiding flying them here.

In *Salomon v Commissioners of Customs and Excise* ([1967] 2 QB 116) Lord Justice Diplock had stressed the importance of establishing a cogent connection between the statute and the treaty and pointed out that in that case they were nearly identical.

That was far from the case here. As Mr Sullivan had neatly pointed out, the only reason that Mr Southwell found it necessary to look at the multilateral agreement was because the regulations were so different.

Sections 73 and 74, which were the foundation of the regulations, embraced charges payable not only by Eurocontrol but also charges payable to the secretary of state or to the CAA.

The detention regime laid down was similarly wide and was derived from earlier statutes which had no connection at all with Eurocontrol.

The second question was whether there was any obscurity

or ambiguity as to the meaning or scope of the regulations. His Lordship was unable to see any.

Mr Southwell was inviting the court to insert into the regulations a complex condition precedent derived from article 13 of which the regulations themselves contained no trace. That was not permissible and the plaintiffs had failed to make good the second criterion of Lord Oliver in *J. H. Rayner Ltd v Department of Trade* ([1990] 2 AC 418).

Article 86 had the purpose of preventing undertakings with a dominant position in the common market from abusing their position. For that to be so, it was agreed, the activity that the organisation pursued had to be of an economic or commercial nature.

The decision of *LTV v Eurocontrol* Case 29/76 ([1976] ECR 1341), while not directly in point since it was dealing with a different Convention, was of strong persuasive force in favour of the defendants since it demonstrated that a claim by Eurocontrol to recover their charges in the exercise of its public powers was not a commercial matter.

The fact that they covered their expenses by charges did not convert their essentially regulatory activities into commercial ones. The very idea that regulatory bodies such as the two defendants could conceivably be seen as enjoying a position of economic strength enabling them to hinder or maintain effective competition seemed to his Lordship far fetched in the extreme.

Solicitors: Allen & Overy, Richards Butler; Mr R. J. Britton.

Trustees not liable for capital gains tax

Swires (Inspector of Taxes) v Renton

Before Mr Justice Hoffmann

[Judgment June 20]

Trustees exercising discretionary powers and appointing trust assets to be held on new exhaustive trusts did not thereby incur liability for capital gains tax.

The appointment did not create a new and separate settlement giving rise to a deemed disposal under section 54 of the Act.

Mr Justice Hoffmann so held in the Chancery Division dismissing the Crown's appeal by way of case stated from a determination of special commissioner (Judge Medd, QC) discharging an assessment to the tax for 1981-82 on Mr Michael Paul Renton, a trustee of a discretionary settlement made by Mr Jack Meek in 1954.

By a deed in 1981, stated to be supplemental to the settlement, the trustees in exercise of a discretionary power, appointed one part of the trust fund to the settlor's daughter absolutely and the balance to be held by them to pay the income to the daughter for life with power to appoint any part of the capital, freed and discharged from the trusts, to her and subject thereto

to be held in trust for her two sons in equal shares absolutely. The trustees accepted that the first appointment to the daughter absolutely gave rise to a deemed disposal under section 54 of the Act.

The dispute arose in relation to an assessment raised on the basis that the trustees, as trustees of the appointed fund, became absolutely entitled to the assets in that fund as against themselves as the trustees of the settlement so that there was a deemed disposal under section 54(1) of the Act.

Mr Laurence Henderson for the Crown; Mr Leolin Price, QC and Mr David Ritchie for the trustee.

MR JUSTICE HOFFMANN said that the issue was whether the exercise by the trustees of the power of appointment resulted in there being a deemed disposal for tax purposes.

That turned on whether the appointed assets remained subject to the trusts of the settlement, as varied by the terms of the appointment, or whether the appointment subjected them to the trusts of a new settlement.

Romeo v Edwards ([1982] AC 279, 293) showed that the question whether a particular set of facts amounted to a separate settlement had to be approached by asking what view

would be taken by a person with knowledge of trusts who applied that knowledge in a practical commonsense manner. Had new trusts been grafted on to the old settlement or had a new settlement been created?

Further, *Bond v Pickford* (1983) 57 TC 301 showed that a critical element in deciding whether a new settlement might be the scope of the power that had been exercised.

If that power allowed the trustees to define or vary the beneficial interest but not to remove the assets from the settlement then it was difficult to imagine any application within the scope of such a power that could be construed as the creation of a new settlement.

On the other hand, the power might be expressed in terms wide enough to permit the trustees to remove the assets from the settlement and to create a new settlement. The question would then be whether that was what the trustees had chosen to do.

There was no single litmus test for deciding the question. The paradigm case of the creation of a new settlement would involve the segregation of particular assets, the appointment of new trustees, the creation of new trusts which exhausted the beneficial interests in the assets and administrative powers that made

further reference to the original settlement redundant.

But the absence of one or more of these features was not necessarily inconsistent with a resettlement. The question was one of construction applying the test laid down in *Romeo v Edwards*.

The special commissioner decided that various indications in the deed of appointment pointed to the declaration of new beneficial trusts of the appointed fund without creating a new settlement.

Two provisions in the deed of appointment really mattered: first that the administrative and other powers relating to the settlement should continue to apply to the appointed fund, and second that the trustees had power to apply the capital of the appointed fund "freed and discharged from the [settlement] trusts" to the settlor's daughter.

Those provisions showed a sufficient intention on the part of the trustees to create new trusts under the old settlement rather than to set up a new settlement.

The issue was not an easy one and was finely balanced but in the end the conclusion was that the commissioner's determination was correct.

Solicitors: Solicitor of Inland Revenue; Nabarro Nathanson.

Halt hair loss hope

A DISCOVERY at the University of Miami medical school could help eliminate hair loss in patients receiving chemotherapy. Dr Adel Yunis and colleagues found that a naturally occurring protein, Interleukin-1, which can be produced by genetic engineering techniques, eliminated hair loss in rats during chemotherapy. The scientists hope to start clinical trials in human patients within a year.

Birth pill?

LOW doses of aspirin can reduce the dangers of high blood pressure during pregnancy, researchers at Case Western Reserve university in Cleveland report in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*. The study also suggests that aspirin in low doses reduces the risk of having a severely underweight baby. The researchers detected no harmful side-effects.

Frozen lamb

THE coldest winter in New Zealand for 16 years is freezing sheep to the ground and killing hundreds of birds. The reason appears to be the recurrence of the El Nino weather pattern, which often causes global disruptions of the weather. Since June 25 there have been only two days above freezing in Central Otago.

Bug beaters

TWO genetically engineered pesticides have been approved for use by the United States Environmental Protection Agency, *Biotechnology Business News* reports. The insecticides, said to be effective against Colorado beetle and diamond-back moth, are produced by the Mycogen Corporation by inserting the gene for toxin production from a soil bacterium into a second bacterium which is easier to mass-produce.

Shell shock

THE provincial government of Bali has denied Greenpeace claims that 50,000 sea turtles are killed every year for exports and for tourist consumption. The only turtles killed were for traditional and religious rites, he said, and involved no endangered species.

1991/07/18

The third age finds its second wind

Are the retired, with both the time and the impetus to improve their health, the new fitness enthusiasts? Liz Gill reports on growing old gradually

Gorge Vandenberg celebrated his 73rd birthday this week but before he tucked into his cake, he had a game of bowls, a table-tennis session and a stint on the badminton court. As the chairman of the Bexley Leisure Loggers, a group aged 60 and older who meet for sporting and recreational activities, Mr Vandenberg is typical of a growing number of people for whom the third age — the age of freedom from work and family — may well be the fittest one.

One curious example of the fitness trend among the over-sixties was the complaint a few days ago by Adrian Mourby, a BBC producer attempting to cast a television version of Kingsley Amis's *The Old Devils*, that he could not find a "gross 18-stone Welshman" to play one of the key roles. According to Mr Mourby, most 60-year-old actors "keep themselves in good nick and are into health foods".

Actors may not be typical, but their concern with keeping in shape would seem to be shared by an increasing number of the retired. For instance, Age Concern's Age Well programme, which aims to promote health awareness for senior citizens, has led to a variety of initiatives around the country: exercise groups, special cookery classes, and talks on health.

'People fear being a vegetable more than they fear death'

Today and Tomorrow, the charity's conference, next week at London university marks the culmination of a 15-month public debate on the subject.

Eric Reid, aged 62, the director of the Association of Retired Persons, which sends out 90,000 newsletters detailing activities, says: "There is certainly a lot more interest in what are euphemistically called veteran sports. People are retiring earlier, not always through choice, and they appreciate the need to keep active. The Americans say 'Use it or lose it', the Germans say 'Who rests, rusts'."

Dr Ian Hastie, a consultant physician in the care of the elderly at St George's Hospital and the honorary secretary of the British Geriatric Society, finds the men and women he meets at checkups and on pre-retirement courses are much fitter than previous generations. "If you look back, the manual worker in particular was virtually finished at retirement, just worn out. Now people may have a touch of arthritis, or even have had a heart attack, but generally they will not be the decrepit old bodies they used to be."

Even where there has been a lifetime of bad habits, amends can be made. The advice Dr Hastie gives is a mixture of

common sense and established thinking on alcohol, diet, exercise and tobacco. He says weight control is a matter of not putting any more on, rather than trying to take it off. "Unless you are grossly overweight the weight you have been at for the past 30 or 40 years is probably your ideal."

He also recommends anyone under 75 should give up smoking. "It used to be thought you had to wait three or five years to get the benefits, but although that is probably true for cancer, other benefits, like better oxygen utilisation and easier breathing, happen very quickly."

Diet is less clear-cut: there have been some curious findings in relation to cholesterol. "A study in France looked at a group aged 80 and over and found that they had a much higher cholesterol level than is usually thought acceptable."

Nor would he recommend that anyone suddenly go vegetarian in later life — "Their body has been used to 60 years of meat."

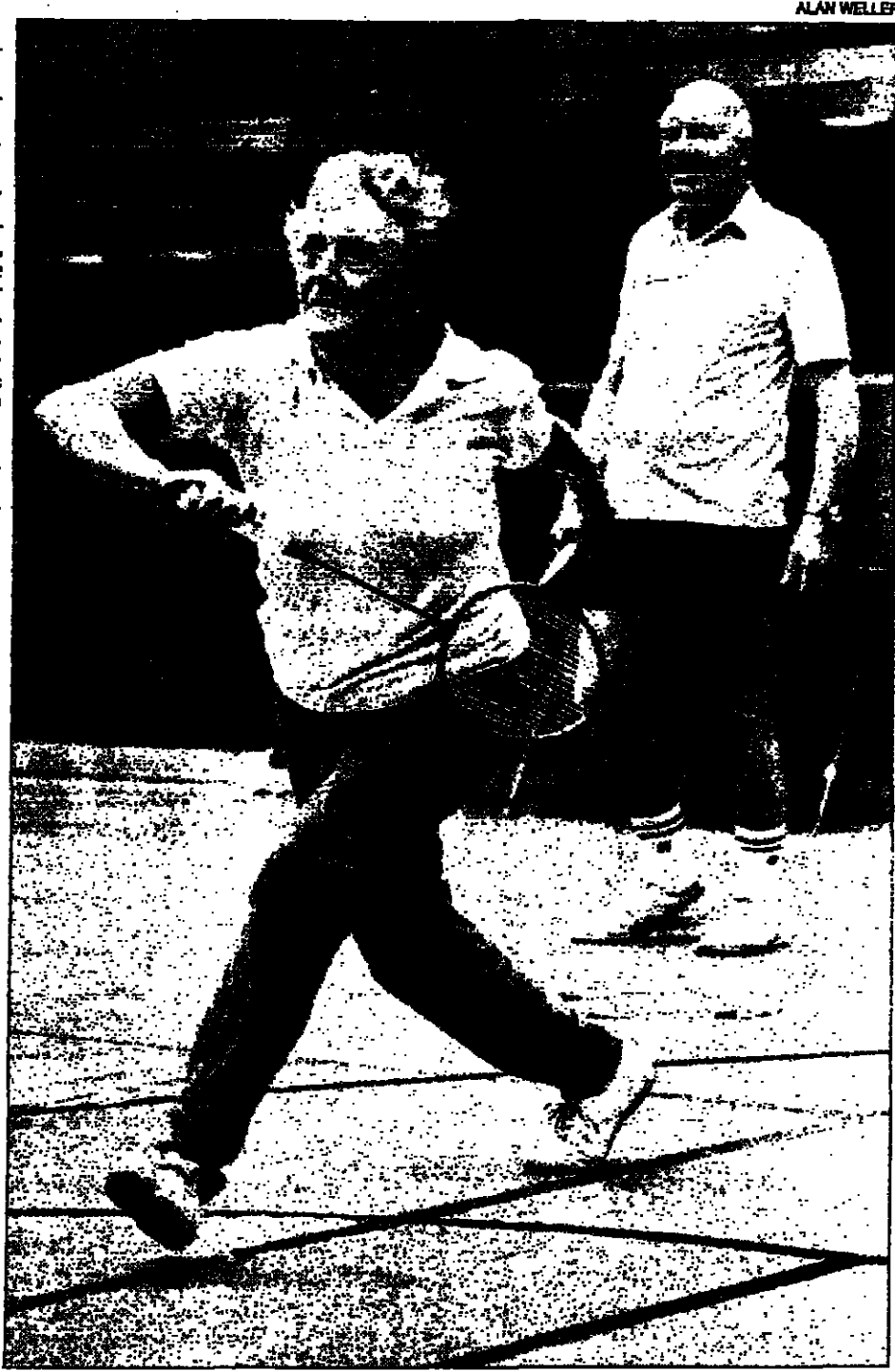
Under their new contracts GPs have to offer a home visit once a year to all those aged 75 and over on their list. Given that doctors see most of those patients during the year anyway, Dr Hastie believes the clause is of dubious value, and that many elderly patients would be better served by being encouraged to seek help if something is wrong "and not just putting it down to their age".

Dr Eric Midwinter, the director of the Centre for Policy on Ageing, an independent think tank, thinks that interest in health among pensioners is either a response to "some national hubbub about everyone is responsible to", or a continuation of established interests. "I think active people have, probably always been active. The health of older people is now generally very good. Several surveys recently have shown that more than 80 per cent of 65-year-olds report feeling fairly or very healthy. Of course, the trouble with these self-assessments is that they may be coloured by expectations. People form an unmoderated idea of what old age entails and are then surprised to find that they are all right. It is an attitude characterised by the phrase, 'I'm very well for my age'."

"The countervailing attitude to activity is where people play out the role of being old. They stop doing things, which creates a fitness gap between what they could do and what they actually do. This undue caution is often endorsed by young people. I know one woman who tried to stop her mother learning to tap dance. It was thought unseemly. Fortunately, the

mother took no notice and went on to win medals."

Still, there are real drawbacks to being a member of the third age. Sedentary jobs, the use of the car and the lack of hard physical labour have contributed to the rise of osteoporosis, which now affects 70 per cent to 80 per cent of women and 50 per cent to 60 per cent of men by their mid-sixties. The loss of bone density can, however, be remedied by exercise.



Rallying: Peggy Smith and Ken Dicker, of the Leisure Loggers club, play badminton

and they didn't think that was aimed at them."

The study also discovered that those who were fit and disability free smoked and drank more and took less notice of messages about healthy eating and exercise. "They saw themselves as a bit of an elite," Dr Vetter says. "The difficulty is that when you are fit you tend to be a bit snobbish about it. It may also be, of course, that the unfit stopped smoking because they were unfit or became unfit through other bad habits."

"I think the extent to which you can modify what is going to happen to you anyway is marginal, maybe a difference of 5 or 10 per cent. You are stuck with your genes and your environment."

One of the big questions in all this is how better health in the third age will affect the fourth age, the era of decrepitude and dependence. Will it shorten it — what is known as "compression of morbidity" — or merely postpone it?

The optimistic view says that as long as you keep your mind and body supple you can extend the third age a long time. The ideal would be 40 years of the third, 40 seconds of the fourth," Dr Midwinter says.

There is some good news for women: a survey of 87,526 American nurses shows that drinking two to five units a day is associated with an improved life expectancy. But in general most men would invoke the ancient but otherwise discredited prayer which thanks God that they were born men.

DR THOMAS STUTTAFOED

MEDICAL BRIEFING Dr. Thomas Stuttaford

Cannabis visionaries

A YOUNG Rastafarian recently complained to his doctor about his diminishing sexual prowess, and wanted to have the whole gamut of investigations for impotency. He had done his homework well, and wondered whether his penile blood supply was adequate, or whether his corpora cavernosa leaked, or he postulated that he might have a surfeit of the pituitary hormone prolactin. When it was suggested to him that his problems might be indirectly linked to his bloodshot eyes, in that both could well stem from too much ganja, he agreed that this was indeed a possibility, although he added that he was as prepared to suffer red eyes from cannabis as he had observed the British were to tolerate red faces from whisky.

Dr R.S. Hepler, writing in the medical journal *Ophthalmology* in 1972, scientifically describes the cannabis user's eye troubles, including the red eyes, the small pupils, and the reduction in intra-ocular pressure. Other doctors have also observed that there is an apparent reduction in the



incidence of glaucoma in heavy cannabis users.

A report in a recent *Lancet*, originally derived from *Nature*, has shown another optical effect of cannabis. Dr Manley West, a pharmacologist at the University of the West Indies, has noted how Jamaican fishermen who often drink a white rum extract of cannabis are able to navigate expertly between the coral reefs, even on the darkest night. He confirmed their story by joining them on their fishing expeditions, and found by simple experi-

ments that their uncanny ability to see at night was due to cannabis rather than rum. Later in his laboratory Dr West isolated the active component of cannabis, named Canasol, which reduced intra-ocular pressure. Dr West says many of the patients treated with it have commented on how their night vision has improved. The extract of cannabis is now being used to treat glaucoma, but patients need not worry that they may become stoned, for Canasol is non-psychoactive.

Safer sleepers

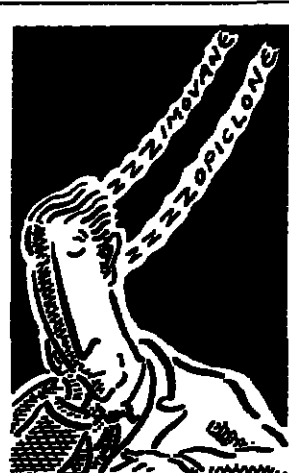
THERE is argument about the basis of benzodiazepine addiction but, whatever the underlying cause, although the proportion of patients who become dependent is small they need treatment.

Pulse magazine reports that work at the Maudsley hospital in London on flumazenil, an effective antagonist to the benzodiazepines, which can be used to treat patients with severe and prolonged withdrawal symptoms, has had to be suspended because of shortage of funds.

The same team, it is reported, tried using the new sleeping pill Zimovane (zopiclone) in its treatment of benzodiazepine addiction. Although statistically scrutinised figures are not available, it appears that around half of the patients were helped; the others merely transferred their addiction from the older drug to the new one. This work would apparently bear out the manufacturer's claim that Zimovane is very much

less addictive than benzodiazepines, and represents a considerable advance in the pursuit of safety.

A recent survey of the side effects of Zimovane — few drugs have no side effects — showed that 7 per cent of patients have a metallic taste in their mouth the next day, 1.5 per cent have daytime sleepiness, and 1.3 per cent complained of a hangover. A very few patients showed unreasonable irritability, anxiety, restlessness or memory loss the next day; these side effects have also been reported in those who use benzodiazepines.



Eye contact with Saddam

IN THE unlikely event of the Prince and Princess of Wales ever meeting Saddam Hussein, they will be able to keep the conversation alive with talk of backache, a shared problem. When Saddam had his disc problems he sent for an English orthopaedic surgeon, Mr Henry Langston, who found that the president was a rather difficult patient to treat as he tended to dis-

regard most of the advice offered. The striking feature of the examination was Saddam's reaction to it. Most patients watch to see what the doctor is doing, whether it is wielding the patella hammer, applying the tuning fork or taking blood, but Saddam's eyes, as wary as ever, never left the surgeon's eyes for a moment, an experience which Mr Langston found unnerving.

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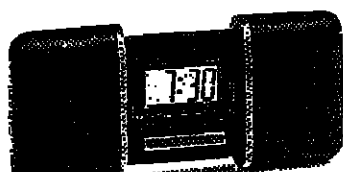
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Wine, women and bad news

This week's report from the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys shows that one woman in 11 is drinking more than the cautious guidelines laid down by the BMA, which advises not more than 14 units a week, and that the gap between male and female alcohol consumption is shrinking.

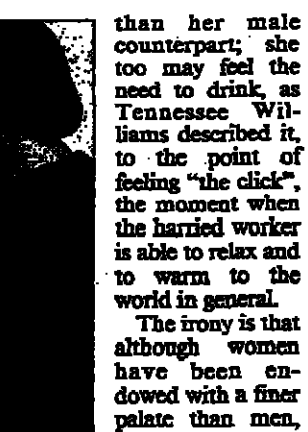
Younger and professional women, except for those in health or education, tend to drink the most, the report suggested. The trend for women to drink more is a continuing phenomenon; between 1930 and 1971 the proportion of young married women who drank regularly rose from 24 to 91 per cent, and a recent survey from Edinburgh has shown that 96 per cent of girls aged 14-16 regularly consume alcohol.

Another recent report, in *The Lancet*, shows that the pattern of drinking in female civil servants is more likely to be related to stress than to age; those in the highest grades drink four times as much as their juniors.

Women are chasing men in the drink stakes — but they are handicapped

Women who have successfully competed in the once male dominated worlds of the City, Whitehall, the law and the arts now naturally expect, unless they are aware of the differences in their physiology, to share equally both the claret and the decision-making at any business meal. But whereas their managerial ability makes their decisions as useful as those of their male companions, nature has not given them either the right stature or hormones to drink the same as men without jeopardising their livers.

The successful woman is no less tired, hungry and fractious after a hard day's work



Glass of small female cheer

much more dire for them. Women should have only one drink for every two their male companions take.

The ability to drink safely is partly related to body size; few women are as big as men, and a greater proportion of their body mass is composed of fat which, as it absorbs alcohol badly, leaves more of the alcohol circulating in the body fluids. Women also have 10 per cent less body fluid than men, and these two factors mean that alcohol is more concentrated in a woman's blood after drinking, and in consequence she suffers more from its effects.

Women's livers, probably because they are already having to cope with breaking down the female hormones, are less able to regenerate than men's.

A man who dramatically alters his drinking habits once early liver damage has been diagnosed has a very reasonable chance of recovering, whereas in women the disease is likely to be progressive. Cirrhosis used to be predominantly a male disease, but now 40 per cent of cases are female.

Women do not fare well while drinking socially, either. It used to be thought that although they became intoxicated more quickly, partly through physique and partly because they absorbed alcohol faster, they had the compensation of sobering up more quickly. But last year Dr M. Fredda reported in the *New England Journal of Medicine* that women also oxidised alcohol more slowly than men — in lay terms they became drunk faster, and remained drunk longer.

There is some good news for women: a survey of 87,526 American nurses shows that drinking two to five units a day is associated with an improved life expectancy. But in general most men would invoke the ancient but otherwise discredited prayer which thanks God that they were born men.

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Dickens and Cartland rant in drag

Victoria Glendinning reads a funny and angry fiction of the way we live and love now, from a clever and quite feminist point of view

One has to tolerate a lot of nonsense in Dickens, writes Lucy Ellmann in her funny and furious second novel, just as one has to tolerate a lot of nonsense in the Catafalque Institute, a Dickensian, run-down college of art history in a dull corner of London. Its teaching staff include Angelica Lotus, an unmarried lady (erroneously) to be past child-bearing, who offers to write a best-seller to save the underfunded Catafalque from financial collapse; and Sir Humphrey Basilisk, Keeper of the Queen's Pictures and an accredited

Before anyone reaches for a writ, it should be stressed that the Catafalque Institute bears no more resemblance to a real-life Institute beginning with a C than did Dickens's Circumlocution Office to any particular branch of the civil service. Also on the Catafalque staff are Dr Cragshaw, who runs on gin and is the world expert on Chardin's brushstrokes, and old Splutter, who exposes himself to female students in the institute's garden. Then there is the Splendid Young Man, who produces coffee-table art books, conducts seminars in suave red socks, and fancies himself like mad. He is fancied by all the female students too — including our heroine.

She is 31-year-old Isabel, bony,

fastidious and prim, waiting to be swept off her feet, "an ageing virgin holding out for Mr Right". In spite of having some brains, Isabel's view of life and love derives from the 391 romantic novels of one Babs Cartwheel, and she thinks in passionate one-sentence paragraphs in the approved Mills & Boon fashion. This spaced-out lay-out leaves a lot of white paper in what is already a very short novel, divided into very short chapters. If you take this book on holiday with you, and I recommend that you do, you'll need some dreary blockbuster as well, because you'll finish *Varying Degrees of Hopelessness* before tea-time on the first wet day.

VARYING DEGREES OF HOPELESSNESS

By Lucy Ellmann
Hamish Hamilton, £13.99

Isabel shares a flat with the grossly fat and immodest Pol, who is not at all prim. "a blob of slithering, trembling matter" spilling out of a tight pink and orange outfit. Isabel is very sorry indeed for Pol, not only for her disastrous appearance but for her wrong values. So she is hurt and mystified when both the Splendid Young Man and a repressed American art historian called Robert (who also fuels Isabel's romantic fantasies) take Pol to bed repeatedly and with evident enjoyment.

Isabel is the Anita Brookner heroine, stripped down to a Barbara Cartland essence. If Dickens, Brookner and Cartland breathe o'er this Eden, there is also a whiff of Fay Weldon's punitive railery, and a Vonnegut-feeling in the epigrams,



Lucy Ellmann, with a seriously witty tale of goings-on in a familiar run-down college of art history

diagrams and underlying cosmic spicen. Lucy Ellmann uses, abuses and discards her references with a fine abandon.

Thin Isabel is sorry for Pol, fat Pol is even sorer for Isabel. Pol is not a romantic. She despises men as weak, undependable creatures obsessed with their sexual performance. "Like drone bees, they should be shelved, to be used as genetic stock cubes. They are experts in uselessness. Women do everything better." Pol despises feminists, too. "They were just looking for excuses to put down huge swarms of fellow beings."

We are treated to vignettes of the family backgrounds of Isabel and

Robert, with a tentative excursion into the case history of Robert's Californian girlfriend Gail — at least, there is a chapter heading "Gail's Mother", followed by the sentence: "The author feels no interest in Gail or her mother at the present time."

End of chapter. Lots of white space. What the author is interested in, among all this playfulness, is the hopelessness of life. Her merry little novel is a vehicle for disgust.

The design of the world, she says, is flawed. There is only pollution, loneliness, sickness and death. "We try to fill the credibility gap with painting, bits of ordered chaos; and music, noises hung on a line to dry.

And love" — and, she might have added, funny novels. Even the life of the mind — or the life of the artistic mind — is sliced and shredded by Pol and her creator.

What keeps everyone going is intermittent optimism. "Beneath Robert's present cynicism and despair, as well as his acute state of disgust, lurk little flighty birds of hope." The whip-lashing author releases several of these flighty little birds in her last pages, rewarding Isabel and her friends with a selection of compromise loves to see them through their remaining years. Lucy Ellmann is clever, and very angry.

right dangerous in the idealised gloss it gives to certain forms of paedophilia, to say nothing of the devastating impact on his seaborne paradise of the arrival of AIDS a decade after the author's death. But whatever the reactions of individual readers (and the novel seems at times to assume they will primarily be male), there can be no doubt that Embirikos's *Odyssey* is every bit as serious, in moral and literary terms, as that of Joyce.

The posthumous commercial success of his novel would surely have appealed to the ironic sense of humour that peeps between its pages, rather than to any commercial designs of this most unworlly of 20th-century artists.

Timeo Danaos et that mastiff

IT'S not often that a literary work is hailed in the national press as "one of the few real events in the history of our literature", while at the same time fervent calls are heard for the prosecution, or worse, of everyone associated with its publication. But this has been the fate of the posthumous novel of Greece's foremost surrealist poet, Andreas Embirikos. The author himself died in 1975, and so is beyond the vengeful reach of his critics. Volumes 3 and 4 are published this month.

The novel, *The Great Eastern*, occupied Embirikos from the end of the second world war until the early 1970s. When published in full it will apparently run to some 2,500 pages, and must be the most

sustained sexual fantasy ever committed to paper.

The novel is set in 1867, aboard the transatlantic liner which gives it its title. In the course of a nine-day "maiden voyage" from Liverpool to New York, orgasms are lovingly and intimately described at a rate of approximately one to every four pages. Men and women perform singly, in pairs, and in groups of up to three, with a giant mastiff attached to the hindmost.

Like James Joyce's *Ulysses*, Embirikos's novel is a modern *Odyssey*. Joyce's masterpiece was finally passed fit for the

English reading public on the grounds that its sexual frankness was likely to have only an exotic effect. There are some passages in *The Great Eastern* which might well provoke this response, but it is clear that Embirikos had no such extenuation in mind. (Indeed one may well wonder whether any British publisher would take on such

GREEK FICTION

Roderick Beaton

THE GREAT EASTERN

By Andreas Embirikos
Edited by V. Yatsopoulos
Athens, 1989, four volumes,
2,500 drachmas each

draws daringly on the linguistic resources of his tradition, and in his own way tests them close to the limit. The story is told in a poised and dignified

a book.) *The Great Eastern* is a passionate hymn to sexual liberty, to the immersion of the ego in the endless and benign flux of nature, represented by the god Pan.

Like Joyce, Embirikos draws daringly on the linguistic resources of his tradition, and in his own way tests them close to the limit. The story is told in a poised and dignified

narrative style, in the language of the 19th century with its overtones of classical Greek, but provocatively sprinkled with the most forbidden words in the language (most of them never seen in print before). Whole paragraphs record verbatim the integration of language into inarticulate cries, as the characters are liberated from the constraints of rational discourse and even of language altogether in the attainment of pleasure.

One may conclude that Embirikos's vision is naively ingenuous, and even down-

Big Ears and the chocolate factory

whether they liked *Swallows and Amazons* or *Just William*, which left those who liked both in the awkward position of a chimera. The survey finds that children who enjoy the books they first read grow up to be better writers and readers. Surprise. We need no examination assessors come from EMU (Evaluation and Monitoring Unit) to tell us that. The taste for horror, so pro-

nounced among adults as a genre that *The Times* has to introduce it as a separate category, has spread to the young. Among secondary school boys, Stephen King (in particular his book *It*) and James Herbert (*The Rats*) lead the shelves, with Tolkien (hairy-footed old hobbits) third. Girls in secondary schools prefer, according to the batty generalisations of surveyors, Virginia Andrews

(*Flowers in the Attic*), Judy Blume (*Forever*) and Enid Blyton (passim).

We are not surprised that the survey finds that children who spend more time watching television perform less well at reading and writing. Girls take greater pleasure in private reading than boys, and in writing about books they have read. Probably *proper hoc*, girls continue to score better than boys at reading and writing. Two-thirds of the boys and half the girls surveyed said they preferred watching television to reading. Children are still having fun reading books and giving answers to shock their elders. *C'est leur métier.*

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Of truffle pigs and jolly japes

Antonia Bremner

MARRYING OFF MOTHER

And Other Stories
By Gerald Durrell
HarperCollins, £13.99

HOW TO MAKE AN AMERICAN QUILT

A Novel
By Whitney Otto
Picador, £14.99

HAVING IT ALL

By Maeve Haran
Michael Joseph, £14.99

"WAS I really standing next to my station-wagon in which slept a highly aromatic pig called Esmeralda and discussing her sex life with the owner of a hotel called The Three Pigeons?" This is the sort of sentence that made Gerald Durrell a hit in the school sanatorium. Even a bad case of mumps became tolerable once *Rosy is My Relative* (the elephant novel) and *My Family and Other Animals* had been discovered, squashed between a pile of out-dated *Bunty* annuals and a row of unfingered Dickens. Far from being improving little animal stories, they gave a spirited picture of grown-up adventure.

Marrying Off Mother and Other Stories, Durrell's 23rd publication, is full of the same old *joie de vivre*: eight stories continuing his long-running autobiographical series of *Tales From a Naturalist's Life*. Whether it is an adult book for children or a children's book for adults, it is hard to tell. It doesn't really matter. Durrell is there in person, both as a boy dissecting a hedgehog in Corfu, and as a respected zoologist collecting species from the Amazon, and his intuitive familiarity with animals suffuses his view of everything. As well as Esmeralda, the champion truffle pig of Périgord, who wears a gold chain collar and a scent called "Joy", there is the woman from Tennessee who looks like a bull-dog.

The collection is spattered with child-like descriptive touches, such as the house in "Esmeralda", whose roof is "made from ancient tiles as thick and dark as bars of chocolate"; the humour, too, owes something to prep school, with dogs called Roger, Widdle and Puke. His is a voice that cannot take on death other than as a strategic part of a story, as in "Retirement", when the emotional significance of a death loses out to a near-slapstick series of incidents. "Jury" — the tale of a disgraced hangman exiled in Paraguay, haunted by his victims — tackles death more successfully with suggestions of the supernatural. But eccentricity is Durrell's delight, even the wickedest stepfather scenario in "Marrying Off Mother" turns out to be a jolly prank.

The patchwork quilt seems to be the hapless motif in American literature. In Carol Shields's *Happened Here* (March), Brenda, the Chicago housewife, revealed her hidden life in the stunning abstract patterns of her quilt. Whitney Otto's *How to Make an American Quilt* shows how the women of a Californian quilting group, who meet once a week at Gladys Joe Cleary's, sew their trials and disappointments into the quilt-in-progress. If you think of all the associative words — stitching, interweaving, reading, joining — you can see how effective the metaphor of "fashioning a quilt from

scraps" can be. For quilt, read: love, marriage, friendship, family, history, and "God's patchwork" and art. Encompassing American history, slavery and the burden of domesticity, Whitney Otto alternates each woman's searing life-story with technical quilting instructions — so that knowing how to store a quilt properly, for example, translates into preserving the passion in a marriage. After two chapters of this rigid design, you see a rich, colourful pattern unfolding, but like the quilters, you are meant to Otto's embroidery of human nature — full of home-spun wit and wisdom — overcomes any woodenness of structure. Whitney Otto's female characters have all returned (if



Durrell and other friends

they ever left) to the fold of domesticity. In *Having It All*, Maeve Haran explores the interesting dilemma of modern women who have taken on men's ambitions but are still saddled with women's responsibilities. Liz Ward accepts the lofty post of programme controller at Metro TV thinking she can have it all: the glittering career, the meaningful marriage, the happy children. So what if she turns up at a boardroom meeting with half of Daisy's breakfast like some lurid post-punk jewellery down the back of her Armani jacket. There are fashions of Jill Cooper here, but not enough to get away from the formulaic counterpoint characters of Claudia the Careerist Cow and Britt the Bitch and the relentless narrative ploy of compare and contrast. Liz loses and reclaims husband, job and children with the full blockbuster quotient of sex, designer labels, satin sheets, champagne and charmlessness. Not the best way to convey a plaintive message.

The novel everyone's talking about

MAEVE HARAN

HAVING IT ALL

'It will make you laugh, cry and rethink your life...' - *Jilly Cooper*

'More morally repellent than pornography' - *Julie Burchill*

'Warm hearted and fun' - *Daily Mail*

'A depressing read with a defeatist message' - *Sunday Times*

'A thumping good story' - *Prima*

'Irresistible... roll over, super-woman, it's time for real woman' - *Mail on Sunday*

'Part of a conspiracy to shame women back to the nursery' - *The Times*

'Realistic, compassionate, but still as pacy as they come' - *Cosmopolitan*

'It's only when fiction contains truth that it touches such a sensitive chord'

Daily Mail

Dangerously subversive or truthful and funny? What do you think?

MICHAEL JOSEPH £14.99

Madonna reclines on a piano rather than act out the title of the movie, *In Bed with Madonna*, which documents the singer's 1990 concert tour

Beware: idols hard at work

Geoff Brown on *Robin Hood*, *Prince of Thieves*, *In Bed with Madonna*, *Alice*, *Whore* and 1871

One look, one word, from Kevin Costner in *Robin Hood*, *Prince of Thieves* (12, Warner West End) and the awful truth dawns. The man has been grievously miscast, thrust into a century — the 12th — that knew nothing about baseball, the expression "laidback", environmental protection or dancing with wolves. Where character actor colleagues impale themselves on their lines ("Locksley," snorts the Nottingham Sheriff, "I'm going to cut your heart out with a spoon"), Costner just brushes against them, remaining 3,000 miles from an English accent.

The plot — the usual one — requires him to be Action Man. Costner's style, however, is built on reflection, and he cannot break the habit even when firing arrows, clutching bell-ropes or leaping from trees. Yet if he never disports himself like Robin Hood, he is every inch the fancily costumed film pin-up. In the obligatory bathing scene, tradition is reversed: here it is Maid Marian who discovers Robin, naked and embarrassed in a secluded pool.

The entire script echoes Costner's parade of late 20th century fashions. Robin returns from the Crusades with a Muslim sidekick (Morgan Freeman) — a rallying-point for religious tolerance and the anti-racist cause. As in Fox's rival *Robin Hood*, Marian (Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio) is re-shaped as a crypto-feminist, waiting against the medieval male. If the film had thrust home its modern attitudes, the Robin Hood genre might have been revitalised, but they are thrown away in an unpalatable stew of half-baked notions, idiot dialogue, frenetic action and roistering comedy.

Kevin Reynolds' direction is of the St Vitus' Dance school: a quick shot of this, a flurry of that. In the final third, the second-unit boys mount an action setpiece of some distinction — the Sheriff's fireball attack on Sherwood Forest — though it comes too late to lift the film. Down the cast,

Alan Rickman steals every scene as an over-ripe ogre of a Sheriff, while in the castle basement, soothsayer Geraldine McEwan concocts tedious spells from rats, blood and spit.

Costner makes a gauche backstage appearance during *In Bed With Madonna* (18, Odeon Marble Arch), he tells the superstar her show is "neat". This is the last word that springs to mind when watching the lady ram-page through songs, wriggle her heart out, strip to a bodice that seems to have strayed from a Victorian engraving, and simulate most pages of the *Kamasutra*. Madonna considers her concert a celebration of love, life and humanity; this documentary por-

trait — released in America as *Truth or Dare* — allows audiences to form their own opinion. The concert footage, shot during Madonna's 1990 world tour, dances with sleek editing and vibrant colour. Backstage life unfolds in grainy, black and white, which may suggest unadorned reality. But Madonna never stops performing, whether receiving her massage, acting as mother hen to her dancers and singers, or laying flowers on her mother's grave. As Warren Beatty observes, hanging round like a pet dog, "There's nothing to say off-camera."

What is said, however, remains fascinating — and not merely for the sexual titbits already pounced upon by the tabloids. Few recent films have caught so well the insane fandango of the rock concert tour: the bickering, the pampering, the chafed egos, the backstage scum of celebrities, relatives, police and childhood friends. Madonna herself — ever restless

and anxious — is always the eye of the storm. She takes herself more seriously than her talents warrant, but it is difficult not to be impressed by the blood, sweat and tears involved in maintaining the Madonna image. Alek Keshishian deserves a bow, too: this 25-year-old music video director brings off a daunting assignment with confidence and verve. He will be heard from again.

Where Madonna stampedes, Mia Farrow tips: *Alice* (12, Odeon Haymarket), Woody Allen's twentieth film, contains her most exquisite performance yet, as a rich Manhattan mouse, trapped in a world of shop-ping, pampered neuroses and pedicures. Her instrument of escape is Dr Yang (the late Keye Luke), a Chinatown doctor whose herbal potions give Alice the power to transform her personality and even to become invisible. A handsome divorcee (Joe Mantegna) waits in the wings as an alternative to her stuff-

fy husband (William Hurt); but Dr Yang's potions lead Alice to other goals entirely. This sweet, magical tale spins further variations on Allen's usual themes of infidelity, family stress and middle-age crisis. Allen himself keeps behind the camera, though Alice's persona — nervously talkative, dithering, guilt-ridden — suggests Woody in female clothes. The visual trappings are elegant; actors glide with grace and acuity, though some appear only briefly (Bernadette Peters, for instance, in fairy princess clothes as the heroine's kooky Muse). Yet, overall, this is a disappointment. As in *Crimes and Misdemeanours*, Allen tackles lives in crisis

through an ambitious mix of styles; unlike its predecessor, the different strands — fantasy, satire, serious musings — never quite blend. Instead of flowing, scenes lurch; time, on occasion, hangs heavy. But if the film itself proves something of a prune, Farrow is a peach, threading through Alice's re-awakened emotions with delicious, wide-eyed hesitation.

Ken Russell, British cinema's whirlwind dervish, is back before us, though *Where* (18, Prince Charles), shot in America, whirls less maddeningly than we expect. The subject — the humiliation of the prostitute's life — suits Russell's penchant for sexual hoop-la, but the script's volume of talk, much of it delivered straight to camera by the whore in question (an uneasy Theresa Russell), restricts the chances for flights of fancy.

The stage play *Bondage*, by taxi-driver-cum-playwright David Hines, provides the source. In Ken Russell's hands, these glimpses of whoredom offer no edification or psychological insight. Yet we should be grateful for small mercies: when the heroine meets a naked septuagenarian, who says he likes to be thrashed with his walking stick, the camera at least behaves like a gentleman and stays outside the bedroom.

Expecting a song-and-dance show from the British independent film-maker Ken MacMullen is like expecting a No 1 single from John Major. Yet in 1871 (ICA Cinema), the director of *Ghost Dance* and *Zina* puts aside his customary frown and dresses up a left-wing history lesson about the Paris Commune in colourful spectacle. Acting from the international troupe is serviceable, if over-deliberate; and MacMullen ingeniously manipulates his chief location: a Lisbon theatre. But the film works best when the tricks are simplest, as when heroine Ana Padrao and a revolutionary chum belt out the "Internationale" on their knees, scrubbing cobblestones.

JAZZ

Stay young and keep your plans to yourself

Two highly distinctive sounds — the brittle, strident piano of George Shearing and the sweet-then-sour close harmony of the King's Singers — are combined at a London Symphony Orchestra Summer Pops concert at the Barbican on Friday and also on a new album, *Get Happy*.

Shearing, 72 next month, is experimenting restlessly. Many of the numbers in this Gershwin and Harold Arlen concert were arranged with the King's Singers around the upright piano, next to the fridge, in his cottage kitchen in the Cotswolds. For the last three years he and his wife have spent their summers just outside Stow-on-the-Wold. His American record producer's reaction to the news that they were going to visit the Cotswolds was: "Are they friends of yours?"

There is nothing bucolic about the music he makes there. The choruses of "I Got Rhythm", for example, have been crossed in counterpoint with Duke Ellington's "Cotton-tails" with surprisingly apt and swinging results. "Over the Rainbow" trails off into an echoing fade with Shearing letting fall, like drops of rain, the Polovitsian maidens' song from *Prince Igor*.

"I just felt 'wouldn't it be nice?'" he said. "Things like that come to me in the studio and the producer encouraged me to hook it up a little. The arrangers leave spaces for me to improvise and sometimes I steal an extra one."

He and his American wife, Ellie, who was a professional singer, have been spending progressively longer each summer in England, whence the blind-from-birth musician emigrated in 1947 to make a career as the only English pianist to rival the American jazz greats of the keyboard.

He sits now, studying the Prom brochure, which in Braille amounts to two fat folios, in a garden with a sweeping sound vista of the wind in the hilltop hayfield, the birds and breezes of Gloucestershire and the pleasures of English radio, which he enjoys in the order BBC Radio 3, 4 and 2. He goes for long walks beside the River Windrush and drinks at a pub at Sawhill, a far cry from the Mason's Arms at Lambeth, where he first played in public, encouraged by his father, a coalman. George was one of six children.

America-based pianist George Shearing, back in his native Britain for the summer, talks to Peter Lewis

"I used to think of America as home," he says. "But now I have kind of come full circle. I was born here and I would be quite happy to die here."

He has lately taken to writing for voices. For the King's Singers he has arranged his signature tune, "Lullaby of Birdland", in four-part harmony and 5/4 time. He has set Shakespeare sonnets and songs for chorus, now to become an album: *Shearing Meets Shakespeare*.

He is ending his long record contract with Concord Jazz. "The thing I want more than anything is freedom to exercise my imagination. I don't like being called a jazz musician, any more than a blind musician. I am a musician."

One of the first players to bridge classical and jazz music, he used to play Bach and Mozart concertos followed by a second half of improvisation with the orchestra. Bach, Debussy and Delius all make ghostly appearances in his solos.

The Shearing Quintet, which made his name and fortune, was disbanded because

he was bored with it. "It worked, but 25 years of that is enough." Lately, his annual forays with Mel Tormé have won them joint Grammy awards, and the concerts of their recent British tour are being broadcast monthly on Radio 2. "He's the best there is," he says of Tormé.

Lately his life has been transformed by a machine called a Versabraille, which translates any printed page either into Braille or into a clear synthesised voice.

How much does he regret that he has never been able to read music? "I would like to have been a studio musician, instead of always having to travel and tour. But that often means that you petrify musically. You don't need a mind of your own; you just play what you see on the paper. If I had read, would I still have my imagination to call on? Apart from music, I would like to have been able to drive a car and to play tennis and cricket. But if a cure were available now, at this point I would turn it down."

What musical ambitions does he still plan to satisfy? He laughed at this for a long time. "If you want to give God a good laugh, tell him all about your plans," he said.

George Shearing and the King's Singers appear with the LSO, conducted by John Dankworth, at the Barbican Hall (071-638 8891) tomorrow.

TED BATH



Shearing: "I used to think of America as home but I was born here and would be quite happy to die here"

"CLASSIC ALLEN, IT'S JAM-PACKED WITH SMART ONE-LINERS AND AN ADDED TOUCH OF THE SUPERNATURAL."

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"DELECTABLE WITH SOME PRICELESS WOODY ALLEN MOMENTS."

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RECORDS: CLASSICAL

Flying in partnership

A batch of new, sometimes unexpected, musical partnerships has bloomed on disc this summer. Philip Langridge and Ann Murray rarely extend their real-life marriage to matters musical: *Beatrice and Benedict* at English National Opera, and *Idomeneo* at Covent Garden are rare examples of musical double-acts in their lives. Here, though, is their first shared record: a programme of songs and duets by Saint-Saëns, Chausson, Gounod and Fauré.

Messiaen is there, too. The significance of a soprano who has attained spiritual peace and a tenor who remains in purgatory will doubtless be clear for those who have ears to hear. But the Langridge of Janáček's and Britten's tormented heroes, and the Murray of Charlotte and Donna Elvira certainly seem to relish their contrasting views of the cosmos in the seldom performed "La mort du nombre". They pair well, too, in Saint-

Au Jardin des aveux. Langridge/Murray/Vignoles. Virgin VC 7 91176-2. Mozart: *Melodies and Lieders*. Hendricks/Pires. EMI CDC 7 54007 2. Schubert: *Lieders*. Argenta/Tan. EMI CDC 7 54175 2.

Saëns's "Danse macabre", he fierce in virtuosity, she sinister and haunting in turn. Each singer has individual songs, too. Langridge enjoys to the full the lift and momentum of language in Gounod's "Serenade", while Murray leaps and soars with stork, eagle and lark in Saint-Saëns's "La Cloche". As partner to them both, their accompanist, Roger Vignoles, is a mercurial third voice, bringing bold movement to Chausson and Fauré in particular.

The Portuguese pianist, Maria João Pires delighted London audiences recently in her new partnership with the French violinist, Augustin Dumay. She is no less creative

in song. Her accompaniments to Barbara Hendricks's selection of Mozart songs make this one of the truly valuable recorded contributions to Mozart year. The closeness of their working relationship here is typified in the little ditty, "Die Verschweigung", where Hendricks's soprano works in quiet conspiracy with the piano's legato undertow in a reading of mischievous ambiguity.

Hendricks pushes her luck by including a Masonic cantata and a full-blown concert aria in this programme of so-called *Lieders*. But Pires's concertante piano part in "Ch'io mi scordi di te" is a real collectors' item, while Goran Solis's guitar restores light, shade and fleeting movement to Mozart's zither song, "Komm, liebe Zither".

No less rewarding is the relationship between Nancy Argenta and Melvyn Tan — not, for once, in pre-Classical music, but in Schubert. Tan plays on a forte-piano, and its contribution to Schubert, for better and for worse, is now well rehearsed. Here it provides sturdy, springing chords for a thoughtfully, yet simply sung "Der Wanderer an den Mond", and gives wings to the feet of Argenta's joyous "Der Musensohn".

A piano would offer the broader, brighter support necessary for the "Mignon" songs and "The Shepherd on the Rock". But Argenta's natural eagerness and high musical intelligence is everywhere tuned into and complemented by Tan's playing.

HILARY FINCH

ARTS REVIEWS
Dance and Television
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Like their medieval forerunners, summits such as this week's in London have grown luxurious and empty, says Michael Binyon

Beyond the wonderment that Britain can mount such a polished spectacle, the self-congratulatory John Major's triumphant coming-of-age, a nagging question about the London summit remains: was it all a gigantic waste of time and money? Are summits anything more than modern equivalents of the meetings of kings and princes on fields of cloth of gold?

A summit suggests by its name a remote, lofty peak, far above the hurly-burly of day-to-day politics, where leaders can meet in splendour and gaze in tranquillity over the vista of world affairs. Nowadays summits are more like mountains of conceit, where the main object is to dazzle rather than illuminate, and extravagant ambitions of statesmen to leave their mark are matched by gargantuan consumption by an ever growing crowd of hangers-on.

Nowadays the civil service shepherds conquer the summits weeks in advance, while the political mountaineers merely plant their flags in pre-ordained spots. The longer the communiqué, the more likely they are to be ineffective. Summits are prisoners of past triumphs, and the inflation of expectations has

Walkabout with too little to talk about



Splendour at the first summit: Francois I and Henry VIII at the Field of Cloth of Gold, 1520

forced them to talk up every routine agreement into a diplomatic breakthrough. The surest sign of success to broadcast to the watching voters at home is the blare of trumpets, the lighting of fireworks and the spectacle of public rejoicing.

It was ever thus. The greatest extravaganzas in history were staged to mask paucity of achievement, to convince a monarch's subjects and rivals that his accomplishments know no ordinary bounds. The notorious 17-day competition in vanity between the young kings of England and France in 1520 so impressed the chroniclers of the Field of Cloth of Gold that few recorded the ironic political result. A mere 16 days later, Henry VIII met Charles V, the principal rival of Francis I, and agreed to make no fresh alliance with Francis for two years.

The Shah of Iran commanded an even more ludicrously teeming gathering in Persepolis to impress the West with his wealth and power. Presidents, prime ministers and Hollywood stars, who

should have been shamed by the conspicuous waste as they consumed the feasts flown in by Maximus, gave the latter-day Tamburlaine the triumph he sought in Persepolis. Within a few years he was deposed.

Modern summits are generally dated from the second world war.

For influence, none has matched the three wartime gatherings of the Big Three. Tehran, Yalta and Potsdam really did decide the fate of the world. By necessity those austere occasions were devoid of pomp and publicity at the time.

The 1955 Geneva summit — the first meeting of the Big Four after

the end of the war — was also a low key, though surprisingly lengthy affair, lasting six days. Eden, Eisenhower, Bulganin and Khrushchev and Edgar Faure, the French prime minister, set a summit agenda that has varied little since: German reunification, European security, disarmament

and cultural and economic relations between East and West. There was a modicum of cordial entertainment, reflecting short-lived optimism, but the journalists could be numbered in dozens.

Summit costs were of a different order in those days. No one needed to pay the press to eat. Security was not laid on by the blanketload: there was no continuous terrorist threat. When Nikita Khrushchev made a coast-to-coast tour of America and its agricultural heartland in 1959, the total cost was £53,570, yet the State Department called it the most expensive state visit ever made. The tastes of Eisenhower and Khrushchev were earthier than those of their successors: at Camp David they spent the day playing skittles and lunched on hot dogs and baked beans.

The corrosive influence of television in upping the costs, the spectacle and the expectations began in the Nixon era. There was a genuine sense of marvel at the Nixon breakthroughs both in Peking and Moscow, and television

magnified this achievement all around the world.

But the rot really set in when the Russians too began to see the political benefits of walkabouts, media access and cavalcades. Mr Gorbachev caused a sensation in 1987 when he leaped from his car in Connecticut Avenue to shake a few astonished hands. But again, was this not history repeating itself? On June 10, 1814, *The Times* reported the visit of Tsar Alexander I to London, noting "he has a perfect indifference to show and parade, except where they are essential to the ceremonies of his exalted dignity. Of his stay in Paris, we wrote: 'he frequently surprised and even charmed the Parisians, by passing through their streets and along their public places, on foot or on horseback, with one or two companions, and sometimes alone.'

Mr Mitterand did the same in London, but surprised no one except his security guards. Summits have lost their power to astonish. Like medieval jousting tournaments which began as deadly challenges, they have softened into ease and sumptuousness, the diplomatic calendar's regular festivals of feasting and flamboyance.

Judges who flee from the path of justice

Bernard Levin explains how thirteen judges were unlucky for one accused man.

Between them, they made an ass of the law and denied him the right of appeal

Yet another miscarriage of justice? What will the line stretch out to the crack of doom? Mr John Berry might well think so; he is in prison, serving a sentence of six years (originally eight), on a charge of making illegal explosive devices for terrorist purposes. The law under which he was tried, the Explosive Substances Act, is perhaps the most scandalous on our statute book: it was rushed through Parliament in a single day in 1983, and it reverses the entire balance of justice: suspicion is enough to convict the defendant unless he can prove his innocence.

Mr Berry, who had an unblemished record, was involved in selling electrical equipment to Middle East government agencies; one of his suppliers was a Mr Smith, and they got orders from the Syrian government which included timing devices. These were made by Smith and collected from Berry by a Syrian officer. All this was done openly and under standard contracts. But when the goods were tested in Syria the authorities there rejected the timers as unsatisfactory, and returned them.

Some of the timers then fell into the hands of the police, and one of their scientific advisers, a Mr Feraday, said that they were terrorist devices. Berry and Smith were arrested and charged under the 1983 Act.

Because the unjust Act in effect makes mere suspicion criminal, the defence requested the evidence on which the suspicion was founded, since Berry and Smith could hardly begin to defend themselves without knowing the particulars of the case against them.

The judge refused the request. Accordingly, the prosecution was never obliged to specify what was the alleged terrorist use of the timers, never obliged to say where they were allegedly to be used, and never obliged even to define "terrorist". But it was agreed that all the devices, whether terrorist or benign, were going abroad.

The only prosecution evidence was from Mr Feraday, the expert witness. He claimed that because the timers did not have built-in safety devices they must have been for terrorism; later, however, in another case, he said that because such timers did have a built-in safety device they must have been for terrorism. (The two devices may not have been the same type, but there was at least an apparent contradiction.)

The judge, one of those who say things like "it matters not", directed the jury that wherever the timers were to be used they came under British law.

The jury convicted Berry, on a majority verdict, but could not agree on Smith, an impossible outcome because whatever they had done they had done it together. Berry was sentenced to eight years and Smith was retried.

Smith was acquitted by a more sensible judge, who ruled that since the timers, innocent or fateful, were to be used outside Britain, no offence against our law had occurred.

Lunacy lurked nearby: Smith was acquitted, but Berry had been convicted — and, moreover, on a charge just declared null and void (that in the ruling in Smith's case that Britain's law did not run outside Britain). Berry appealed. Now comes the crux of the whole terrible business.

His first plea against conviction was, naturally: how could he be punished under British law when no British law had been broken — as had just been established at Smith's trial? But Berry had several more grounds for appeal. These included the refusal of the first judge to rule that the prosecution must deliver the "further and better particulars", the originally unsafe (because contradictory) verdict, the failure of the prosecution to define terrorism, and Mr Feraday's evidence.

The Court of Appeal found Berry not guilty, accepting the argument that if the timers were



Appeal Court bench that refused to hear all the evidence: Lord Justice Watkins, Mr Justice Tucker and Mr Justice Lincoln

solely for use in other countries, whatever they were, it was no business of our courts. But because they did accept that argument, and therefore acquitted him at once, they did not need to take up any of the other defences that he would have relied upon. This, I stress, is not in any way unusual. Nor is the fact that Mr Berry's counsel did not request the appeal court to rule on the other defences. Why should he, when they had got an acquittal first go? But please bear this point in mind: it is the hinge on which the miscarriage of justice swung.

The prosecution appealed to the House of Lords. I bet you thought that an acquitted person could not be retried on the same charge (what the Americans call "double jeopardy"); well, silly you: the trick is done by asking the Lords to rule on "a certified point of law" — in this instance, whether our courts have the power to punish someone in another country.

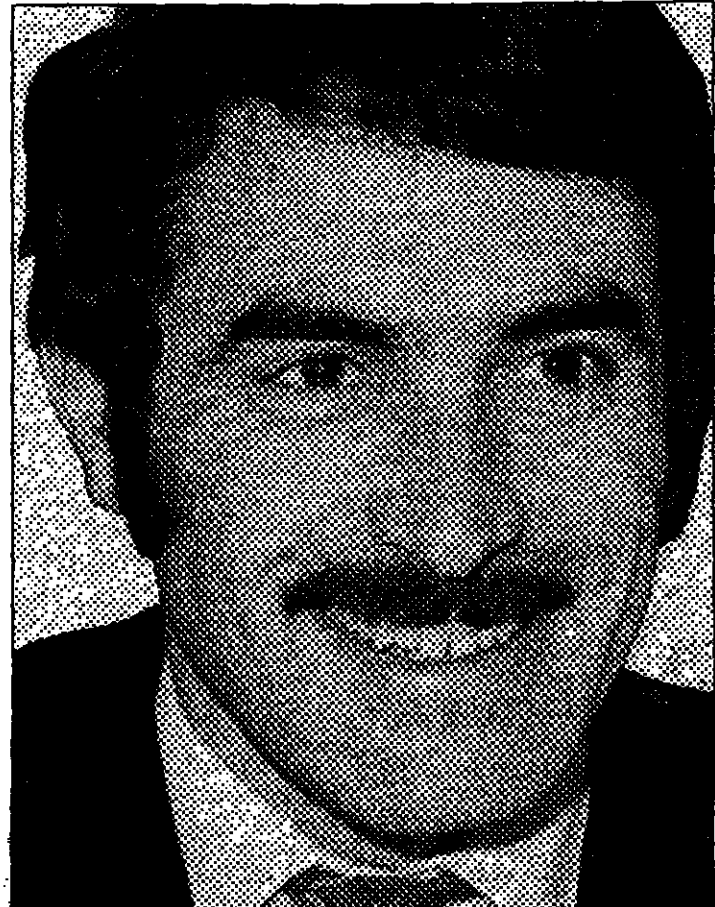
At that point Mr Berry left the country for Spain; he was subsequently deported and returned to Britain. We do not need to go into his motives; even if he were a double-dyed villain he is entitled to every shield our law provides.

The Lords overturned the appeal court and reinstated Berry's conviction and sentence. (This,

incidentally, was six weeks after the Grand Hotel bomb in Brighton.) Lord Roskill, who says things like "beyond peradventure", suddenly introduced a new test for Mr Berry: why could he not show an export licence for the timers, or an application for one? Presumably, Lord Roskill thought their absence was a sign of guilt, but he gave no indication of knowing either that the prosecution had never proceeded with the charge of illegal exportation, or that the judge had discharged the jury from returning a verdict on that charge. On top of that, Lord Roskill ignored the fact that Berry did not export the devices but only sold them (the Syrians collected them in Britain), and on top of that it was not even clear that an export licence was necessary.

Never mind; the really important question was: how could Berry get his palpably wrongful sentence reversed? He had lost on the matter of Britain's law working outside Britain, but he still had a pocketful of other arguments. The defence needed only to take up with the Court of Appeal the points which had been left over and all would be well.

And the Court of Appeal ran away. Its members — Lord Justice Watkins, Mr Justice Lincoln and Mr Justice Tucker — refused to



Unfairly sentenced: John Berry, now serving six years in jail

"relist" the case in order that the shelved grounds could be considered, and they compounded this failure to do justice by doing positive injustice: having concluded their dereliction of duty, they refused leave to appeal to the House of Lords against their decision.

Well? This business is a miscarriage of justice very different from the ones we have recently been seeing, but in a sense it is worse. After all, the judges did their best in the cases of the Birmingham Six, the Guildford Four and the Family Maguire; the problem was only that their best was not nearly good enough. But the Court of Appeal in Berry's case did wrong with open eyes. The judges fled from their duty in refusing to hear Mr Berry's

remaining defences, and as they fled, they locked the door against their victim's last redress by refusing his application to have their decision tested in the House of Lords.

Judges have come under fire recently, being accused of — among many other failings — naïveté, obstinacy, unwieldiness, bias, inflexibility, self-esteem, ignorance, volubility, interruption, gossiping, pomposity, laziness, hectoring, impatience, irritability, deafness, falling asleep on the bench immediately after lunch, and haemorrhoids. But on none of these disabilities did the Berry case turn, nor did they in any way affect this shameful episode. Shameful? What would you call the incarceration of a man and the refusal of his plea

to have his case properly heard? No doubt the Court of Appeal thought that would be the end of it. Fortunately, there is a jurisdiction beyond even our highest courts: the European Commission of Human Rights, before which Mr Berry's case will, I trust, be reopened. If so — formally, it is a request for the Commission to certify the case as suitable for hearing before the European Court — the Court will find that the list of violations of Mr Berry's rights occupies 9½ pages of typescript.

Among the violations were the original statute that puts the onus on the defendant to prove his case; the "judge-made" law to the effect that offences out of the British jurisdiction can be punished within it; the criminal liability for an Act that could not have been foreseen to be against the laws of Britain; the refusal to the defence, at the original hearing, of the further particulars Mr Berry needed; the complete omission of any definition of terrorism; and, above all, the refusal of the Court of Appeal to exonerate Mr Berry's unused defences. He will soon be released; nothing can restore to him his lost years, but the compensation due when the European Court rules could be massive. If only the Court could rule that the judges in this case — more than a dozen of them — should pay it out of their own pockets!

If you read the European Convention you will, I think, be appalled not just by Mr Berry's fate but by the holes in the net of human rights from which our judicial system suffers — or, more precisely, innocent men and women suffer. The Convention was, of course, never mentioned in any of the British legal proceedings, and most of the judges involved showed no sign that they had even heard of it, much less studied it. They might profitably study it now. The last legal instrument John Berry was entitled to wield in his defence was snatched from his hand by our judges. They seem to have forgotten that justice, though infinitely precious, is fragile, and if it is dropped it shatters.

...and moreover

CRAIG BROWN

My Hollywood career seemed to be getting off to a terrific start. I auditioned for a film called *Henry*. I guessed it was about a lovable mutt and the crazy mayhem he creates while Maw and Paw are off on vacation. I thought I was up for the role of his all-too-human playmate, a thoroughgoing kind of two-legged pal who finds this great big bundle of fur just a bit too hot to handle. During the audition, they asked me to lie down on the ground with my mouth open and play dead. "Beautiful," they said.

I got the part! This was my big break. I turned up on the first day of shooting. "This is Henry," they said. I was all set to go "Good boy!", to fluff up his fur, to pat him and to hug him, and to say "He-e-y! Do-o-wn boy!" in that way Hollywood actors do with dogs. Instead, I found myself staring into the barrel of a gun.

"This is Henry," they said. "Henry is a serial killer."

"He's not a lovable mutt?" I replied. "I thought a Henry in a movie was always a lovable mutt."

"Not any more," they said. "That was twenty years ago. These days, Henry is a serial killer."

"But why would anyone want to do that?" I asked. "Why would anyone want to kill a packet of cornflakes?"

"You play victim number 19," they said. "Lie down and act dead."

"But you'll want to see me die!" I replied, worried that my

role was in danger of becoming minimal. "Henry plugs me full of lead and then the camera pans in as I keel over."

"Nope," they said. "Henry's already on to victims number 20, 21, 22, and 23 by the time you come into the picture. Now lie down and play dead. A lot of folk would kill for the part of number 19."

Actually, when the movie was released, number 19 was left on the cutting-room floor. They leapt from number 18 to number 20, and then, ten minutes later, from number 154 to number 156. Part of the film-maker's art, they argued, is to leave things to the imagination. I wasn't bothered. By that time, I had passed the audition for my next movie, provisionally titled *Love Story*.

On its release, the title had been changed slightly to *500 Schizo Killers in the Bathroom all at once*. The makers explained that the title *Love Story* had already been used, way back in early motion picture history. Also, by brilliant editing, the love interest in *500 Schizo Killers*... had been almost entirely extinguished, though critics who viewed it six times or more claimed to be able to spot Ali MacGraw in an early shot, crouching fearfully behind the talcum powder. I played Gerry, who many considered one of the most lovable and sensitive of the 500 Schizo Killers. Having killed a couple of people in the very first shot, I got killed myself before the opening sequence had closed, but by now I was on my way. As the chainsaw whirled through my neck, word came to

the set that I had been picked to star in a multi-million dollar remake of *High Society*.

I was to take the role originally played by Bing Crosby, but with a small change here and there to keep it modern. The setting was discreetly moved from the French Riviera to the Bronx in the year 2020, the Bing Crosby character updated by skilled screenwriters to place less emphasis on his happy-go-lucky naïveté and rather more on his previously understated psychotic propensity for serial-killing. With Robert de Niro in the Louis Armstrong role and Lee Van Cleef as Grace Kelly, it seemed my bid for stardom couldn't fail.

Or so I thought. Two minutes into the filming, Bing went Bang, and was blown apart by another, even more dedicated serial killer, a serial killer who specialised in hunting only other serial killers. (In the end, this serial killer serial killer was killed by a serial killer serial killer serial killer.) Once again, I had landed a big part only to find myself slaughtered before the beginning of the second reel.

Until Hollywood reverses its trend towards psycho-killers, schizo-killers and serial killers, more and more young actors are going to find themselves with fewer and fewer lines. Where are the quiet, peaceful films they used to make about life down on the farm? Of recent movies, only one sounds nice enough to take my granny to. It's called *The Silence of the Lambs*, and should be lovely. Why don't they make films like that any more?

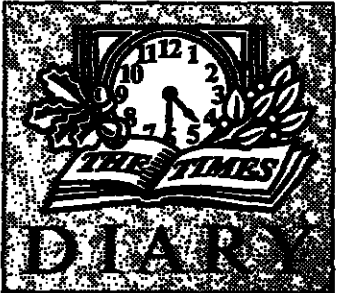
The world by their bedsides

From health clubs to hospitals, a grateful London was this morning counting the commercial spin-offs from the summit. Although it may have cost the British taxpayer upwards of £7 million, those institutions blessed with a view by the G7 roadshow are happily cashing in.

Within hours of the final communiqué being issued, James Baker, the American Secretary of State, concluded one of his most pressing summit engagements. But for once the press was not present to record the event. Baker managed to give the 3,500-strong press corps the slip to visit a Westminster gym, LivingWell Premier Health Club, a stone's throw from the conference centre.

Baker had a relaxing sauna and jacuzzi in preparation for his trip to the Middle East. And the club even arranged for John Huynh Duy Nguyen, personal masseur to Messrs Baker and Bush, to fly in from Houston to ease their aching muscles.

Not only commercial concerns such as hotels have benefited. Stoke Mandeville and Great Ormond Street hospitals are enjoying the international spotlight too. The visits by G7 wives this week were brilliantly stage-managed — but without the aid of public relations companies. Stoke Mandeville does not even have a PR office. "We do it all ourselves," said a spokesman for the hospital, which in the past few years has been visited by celebrities ranging from the Queen to the wife of the Mexican president. Great Ormond Street — recent host to Princess Margaret, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Moscow State Circus and Michael Jackson — has an in-house publicity team of only four people. Yet neither had to lift a finger to



arrange this week's PR stunts. The Foreign Office sought their consent when the wives put in a special request. With both hospitals in the middle of fundraising campaigns there was only ever going to be one answer.

With exquisite timing, Western Isles council is advertising for a deputy director of its finance department. The post "will provide an opportunity for a qualified accountant to gain experience of single-tier local government at a level which will involve him or her in financial management and policy at a senior level," says the ad in *The West Highlands Free Press*. That is one way of putting it. Another might have been to ask for ideas on how to raise £23 million lost with the collapse of BCCI. It might have been worth mentioning, too, that the successful applicant will have to step into the void left by the suspension of the finance director.

Flagging

Why did Lord King suspend British Airways donations to the Tory party? Was it, after all, because ministers are not so fond of flying British as they used to be? Westminster gossip has it that Mrs Thatcher's early edict that ministers should fly British whenever possible is being ignored.

Only yesterday a minister expressed his surprise that his pri-

vate office had booked him on an overseas flight on a non-British airline. And last week Ian Lang, the Scottish secretary, caused consternation by flying Air France to Strasbourg.

Official sources insist the guideline remains in force, but there is speculation that John Major would prefer ministers to take the cheapest possible flights. Touché.

Deathly hush

Whereof one cannot speak, thereof one must remain silent, wrote Wittgenstein. A suitable motto, it seems, for the annual conference in Austria named after the philosopher. This year's meeting, due to have taken place in August, has been cancelled following a furious row



over an invitation to the Australian philosopher Peter Singer, who proposed to deliver an address in support of euthanasia.

Catholic pro-life activists demanded the withdrawal of his invitation. The society's committee said no, and in the resulting impasse the entire conference has been called off. Now the row has split over into British philosophical circles, where it disrupted the annual meeting last weekend of the Aristotelian society. "It's a pity that academic freedom should be restricted in this way,"

But as those objecting were non-philosophers I suppose you can say that philosophy has at last made contact with the real world," says Professor Mark Sainsbury, of King's College, London. Yet Dorothy Edgington, secretary of the Aristotelian Society, asked for no publicity over the row, a strange position for the spokesman of an organisation that has just taken a stand for free speech.

Rural racket

Lady Hollis, who last week was "stood down" as a commissioner of English Heritage by the environment secretary Michael Heseltine, is far from happy. The official reason for not reappointing her is that the job was incompatible with Hollis's position as a Labour spokesman on the environment in the Lords.

But Hollis disputes this and sees no overlap of interests. "I did not go willingly," she says. "My brief in the Lords does not cover heritage matters, and I think it is very important that the commission should represent a range of political views. I am not convinced by Michael Heseltine's explanation."

The departure of Lady Hollis has dismayed staff at English Heritage, who fear attempts to politicise the commission, and who suspect that the long delay in naming a successor to Lord Montagu of Beaulieu as chairman indicates that Heseltine intends to give the job to a Tory retiring from the Commons at the next election.

A painting by Reggie Kray will be auctioned in London today. The picture, painted by the former gangland boss in Parkhurst, where he is serving a life-sentence for murder, is expected to fetch more than £1,000. Bonham's describes it as "of the naive school; child art". Really? Perhaps its subject matter is more revealing. The work is entitled "The Fight".

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FROM THE SUMMIT...

The London summit is over, and by tomorrow the participants will have gone their separate ways. What, if anything, will London 1991 be remembered for — and what should it be remembered for?

The answer to the first question is President Mikhail Gorbachev's dramatic last-minute re-enactment of the burghers of Calais. Here surely was the symbolic end to the cold war, as the great clans of Western capitalism sat about in the palaces of London in their ludicrous finery and received the pauper. Mr Gorbachev no longer makes any bones about his predicament. He pleaded for help, help for a stricken economy and help to cling to power.

It is a good thing that there is such an institution as the G7 for such purposes. The United Nations is no substitute. These states are the truly powerful of the globe. They it is who lay down the law, who dictate whether or not Kuwait is lost, whether or not nuclear proliferation is stopped, whether or not trade is made more or less free. In particular the triumvirate of Japan, Germany and America will decide how far, and when, the West should help the heirs of Marxism-Leninism to repent of their sins. Yesterday they heard Mr Gorbachev out.

They also kept cool — too cool, in fact. John Major claimed that the meeting had put relations with the Soviet Union on a new footing. Yet the seven failed to offer Mr Gorbachev the one risk-free form of serious help they could have offered — an invitation to apply for full Soviet membership of the International Monetary Fund. The proffered special "associate status" with the IMF is no substitute, and the promised visit by G7 finance ministers to Moscow looks like mere window-dressing. The nearest Mr Gorbachev got to a prize was a pledge to lower Western trade barriers for Soviet goods.

Mr Gorbachev has unfinished business to attend to before he can expect other than technical assistance from the West. The Soviet Union is quite simply not ready to make use of whatever hard cash the G7 might have on offer. Promises of future help are all Mr Gorbachev at present deserves. These promises must now be kept. For so much will London 1991 be remembered.

What it ought to be remembered for is a

different matter. G7 has unfinished business too, business that rightly should concern the richest and most powerful in their dealings with each other and the rest of the world. The seven justified their junketing by reminding Saddam Hussein and other rogue elephants that, whatever games they may play at the United Nations, they cock a snook at serious power only at great cost. As a semblance of a new international order takes shape, a specific role for the G7 may be discerned. Until the world decides whether it wants the new order policed or not, and if so by whom, the G7 are doing the job.

A grimmer picture is, as so often, presented by the G7's own back yard: the performance of the seven economies as exemplars for the rest of the world. The economic communiqué speaks of "continued progress in reducing budget deficits". The fact is that America has just announced the largest budget deficit ever (\$348 billion) for 1992. In terms of GNP, Italy's is even worse. Germany is in a similar plight and Britain also has a rapidly rising deficit, which some experts predict could rise to £30 billion by the 1993 fiscal year.

Such communiqué humbug is inevitable when divergent interests must be reconciled. Thus there is a nod towards privatisation, but also towards "essential investment, both private and public, in infrastructure". On an issue eminently suited to this forum, the environment, the ten items in the concluding document add little to last year's Houston communiqué. The single paragraph devoted to the disturbing topic of mass migration is bland even by G7 standards.

Finally, there is trade. Those who regard these occasions as a cynical cartel at work will draw support from the long series of G7 communiqués which have inveighed against protectionism and urged action on Gatt, to little avail. "We will continue to resist protectionist pressures" (Ottawa 1981); "we commit ourselves to halt protectionism" (Williamsburg 1983); "we reject protectionism in all its forms" (Houston 1990). Words, words, words, from those who could well afford to transmit them to deeds, had they only the political courage they this year so gladly willowed on Mr Gorbachev. To that subject, we must turn next...

... DOWN TO EARTH

Will the stalemate in the Uruguay Round of negotiations to liberalise world trade be broken, as promised, by the end of this year or not? If not, even Mr Gorbachev could be forgiven a sarcastic laugh at the evils of monopoly capitalism at work. "We issued" the G7 state, "has more far-reaching implications for the world economy". The prospects for rapid non-inflationary growth in the West, Eastern Europe's hopes for a successful transition to capitalism, the ambitions of developing countries, all hinge on a deal. This is by far the most important matter discussed in London.

Over the past year, the G7 failed to honour the promises made at the 1990 Houston summit. Trade talks collapsed in December. They are still comatose, barely kept alive by Gatt technicians while politicians duck the difficult decisions. In London this week, the seven leaders promised to intervene personally "if differences can only be resolved at the highest level". They have put their credibility on the line, and set the end of 1991 as a target. Yet they leave London having agreed only on what, five years after the round was launched, continues to divide them.

John Major said yesterday that an emergency G7 could be convened to avert failure if history was repeating itself. That is not the point. Although the communiqué identified four sticking points in this complicated package, he knows very well that the chief obstacle is agricultural protectionism, and the villain of that piece is the EC, whose barons he is anxious to appease.

The London summit could make no progress on substance because the European Commission, which negotiates on behalf of the Twelve, has moved not one inch since its feeble offer on trimming farm subsidies was rejected by nearly 100 countries last December. The Commission's only excuse

for not having a new offer ready for this summit is that it has been preoccupied with reforming the common agricultural policy.

CAP reform is the key to breaking the impasse in the Uruguay Round — or would be, were there any hope of bringing it about this year. Nothing less than a credible undertaking by the EC to break with this addition to market-rigging will be accepted by its Gatt partners. That means EC prices must come down to world levels, eliminating the need for protectionism and export subsidies. The proposals the Commission put to EC farm ministers on Monday are a step in that direction. They would cut guaranteed prices, pay compensation to farmers, encourage them to take land out of production and offer early retirement to the 4.5 million full-time farmers who are over 55.

The price cuts are not radical enough. The compensation is too generous and open-ended. The package is unrealistically costed and, although consumers will benefit from lower food prices, their bills as taxpayers will go up. But the principles are right. Yet even John Gummer, the agriculture minister, helped throw out this first fruit of years of British campaigning for CAP reform.

There is no hope of CAP reform by December. EC heads of government must save the Uruguay Round by other means. Britain should support the Dutch presidency's plans to convene an emergency EC summit to draw up a new Gatt offer and a new charter for European agriculture. This must, at the least, produce small cuts now, set a clear timetable for deeper ones and commit the EC unequivocally to breaking with trade-distorting subsidies. The EC must prove it is no longer prepared to sacrifice the world's prosperity, and indeed its own, for the sake of its farm lobby. Europe too needs radical political reform.

A FLY IN THE SOUP

Everybody derives credit from the Lord King affair, except possibly the Tory party, which is deeper in debt. Lord King has revealed a political donation for what it is: an offered bribe. But transport and trade ministers refused to be bought. And British Airways shareholders are no longer paying money for nothing.

Icarus flew too close to the sun and did not live to regret it. Lord King, chairman of British Airways, clearly flew too close to the Tory government. Now it has singed his wings and he has uttered the almost unspeakable truth: political donations are intended to buy favours. When Lord King announced on Tuesday that he had withdrawn BA's financial support for the Tories, he sounded like an indignant restaurateur who had paid the racketeers for years yet found his premises looted.

Tory donations were once explained as being to "uphold the private enterprise system". They were really to protect profits from the regulators, and Lord King should be congratulated for his frankness. Among the de facto political levy for Labour. If BA shareholders' reaction to Lord King's announcement is any guide, they feel much the same about Tory party donations. All is thus made more confused — and thoroughly welcome to those who value variety in British politics.

times changing. Is Lord King yet on first name terms with Labour's transport spokesman, John Prescott? "Fancy another slot, John?" "That'll do nicely, John."

Labour and Tory governments have always had paymasters, and the trade unions have raised £4 million to help Labour fight the next election. Traditionally Labour governments are kinder to the unions than the Tories; while Conservative governments offer businesses lower taxes and more tolerant regulation.

Yet ever since Sir Terence Beckett, director-general of the CBI, promised a "bare-knuckle fight" with the government over economic policy in 1980, the battle lines have become blurred. The brewers threatened to call last orders when the government was about to restructure their industry. Taylor Woodrow used to be the largest Tory donor but has cut its gift to a token, reportedly in protest at high interest rates.

Meanwhile many trade union leaders are angry with Labour for promising to keep in place most of the Tories' industrial relations reforms. Yet many of their members resent the de facto political levy for Labour. If BA shareholders' reaction to Lord King's announcement is any guide, they feel much the same about Tory party donations. All is thus made more confused — and thoroughly welcome to those who value variety in British politics.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Case for a European rural policy

From Mr Nicholas Woolley

Sir, The new plan for reforming the common agricultural policy, unveiled by agriculture commissioner Ray MacSharry (reports, July 10, 16) simply demonstrates the inability of the CAP, as presently structured, to deal with the real problems facing rural areas in the Community.

The Commission continues to believe that all of European agriculture can be contained within a rigid common agricultural policy. Yet it is difficult to see what the large-scale cereal producers of East Anglia have in common with farmers in Portugal or Greece. The average holding in the UK is 60 hectares, compared with just 1½ hectares in Greece.

Under the MacSharry proposals 96 per cent of cereal farmers in the Community will receive compensation from the CAP. Yet the 4 per cent who will receive nothing produce 50 per cent of the cereals from 40 per cent of the land. Needless to say, many of these are UK farmers. Hence, at a time when Europe needs large-scale efficient producers able to compete in world markets we have the spectacle of the Commission promoting policies which discriminate against enterprising and efficient farmers and give blanket restitution to the rest.

I believe that the public wants to see and is prepared to pay for a less-intensive, more environmentally-friendly use of land in the countryside. Support for positive management that enhances the countryside must be available to all those who undertake it, regardless of the size of their holding.

In order to achieve this Europe needs a common rural policy, not a common agricultural policy. The quality of the rural environment has now become just as important a priority as food production. The policies pursued at both the European and the national level should reflect this change in emphasis. Within the common rural policy that I envisage, common objectives would be pursued across the

Community but schemes could be tailored to meet the very different circumstances of different member states.

We are at a turning point in the reform of the CAP. In the coming months the UK government must do all it can to create a broader and more flexible rural policy for Europe.

Yours etc,

NICHOLAS WOOLLEY

(President, Rural Practice Division)

The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors,

12 Great George Street,

Parliament Square, SW1.

July 16.

From Lord Carter

Sir, Your leading article on the Gatt Round (July 15) referred to the "rural barons who gain disproportionately from a system which pays 80 per cent of subsidies to the richest fifth of the farming community".

For over 30 years I have been involved in producing very detailed management accounts for a large number of farms (mainly in the south of England) with an average size of 1,300 acres. The average return on tenants' capital (before interest charges) over the five years 1986-90 was 9.4 per cent. If half the tenants' capital was borrowed the average return was 4.2 per cent. If the value of the land is included the return on capital is barely noticeable.

There is a very great deal wrong with the common agricultural policy but its reform should be based on an objective examination of the facts. The sort of misinformation comment in your leader lends support to the MacSharry proposals which are very bad for the efficient European farmer and very expensive for the taxpayer.

A vast system of outdoor relief for small, inefficient, mainly part-time European farmers is neither sensible nor economic.

Yours faithfully,

CARTER,

House of Lords.

July 16.

is a source of considerable anguish.

We remain, Sir, your obedient servants.

DEREK FAWCETT,

ANDREW PENGOLEY

(Consultant urologists),

Department of Urology,

Battle Hospital, Reading, Berkshire.

From Dr Raphael Balcon

Sir, As a result of the recent changes in National Health Service management I have become head of a group that has started to take over the management of the cardiac department of my hospital. Our first success was to reduce the waiting list for cardiac investigations from six to two months by better use of the available facilities. I suppose inevitably we exceeded management's "targets" and contributed to the "overspending" of the hospital and have now been asked to reduce our work rate. The waiting time is now rising again.

At a recent meeting with management I was asked how many investigations we could sell to other distant regions to help reduce their waiting lists. The answer was at least as many as the number that had been cut from our target. The prospective patients would be coming from, for instance, Bristol with all the inconvenience and expense that that would involve and would be taking the place of local patients who might have been waiting longer.

Is there anything in Alice in Wonderland to match this?

Yours faithfully,

RAPHAEL BALCON

(Consultant cardiologist),

The London Chest Hospital,

Bonner Road, E2.

NHS priorities

From Mr Derek Fawcett and Mr Andrew Pengoley

Sir, Increased involvement by doctors in hospital management is embodied in the health service reforms being introduced this year. We have recently reviewed our experience in management in a large district general hospital during 1989 and 1990. During this time, by chance, we both held senior positions in the hospital and district management structure.

Over this two-year period we spent nearly 1,100 hours in committee (nearly one full day per week each). This does not include preparatory work and at least half was outside normal contracted hours.

Despite this, our management commitments resulted in the loss of 480 operations and 118 outpatient appointments. These cancellations approximate to our current waiting list.

We are concerned about the clinical consequences of increased involvement in hospital management, particularly with the development of business units requiring clinicians to be clinical directors with budgetary responsibility.

If this is to be added to the reduction in registrar numbers and the long-overdue reduction in junior staff hours we wonder how clinical targets will be met.

Hospital consultants provide excellent value for money and give an enormous amount of free time and energy to the running of our hospitals. Our continuing bad press

Called to account

From the Dean of Ely

Sir, I have been three weeks overdue in paying a small gas account in the North-west, due to my move to a new house in East Anglia.

I don't mind being told that I shall be prosecuted for a non-payment, but I do strongly object to being told if I delay payment my "chances of obtaining credit elsewhere may be affected".

This may be standard procedure with commercial concerns, but it is still unacceptable blackmail. Threats of this kind should bring the North West Gas Board to court, not me.

Yours faithfully,

MICHAEL HIGGINS,

The Deanery,

The College,

Ely, Cambridgeshire.

July 15.

Young musicians

From Mr Peter Fribbins

Sir, Richard Morrison's grim picture of life for the music graduate is largely accurate (Arts, July 10). However, I graduated from the Royal Academy of Music in 1990 and would like to take a more positive view.

Success is possible as I know from the example of friends who set up chamber groups at college, specialised (e.g., in contemporary music), were committed, practised hard, and promoted themselves well.

What conservatives like the academy need to teach are the subtle skills of self-promotion. The fact that you can play Sibelius's violin concerto dazzlingly is virtually

Hong Kong's future

From Professor Ian Scott

Sir, Sir Patrick Nairne (July 12) is guilty of gilding the lily when he maintains that the people of Hong Kong were adequately consulted on the Sino-British agreement. It is true, of course, that an assessment office was set up to gauge opinion but the work of that office must be seen against the backdrop of the British government's statement in the introduction to the agreement:

Her Majesty's Government have a duty to make clear beyond any possibility of misunderstanding the alternative to acceptance of the agreement set out in this White Paper. In their view, there is no possibility of an amended agreement. The alternative to acceptance of the present agreement is to have no agreement. In this case the Chinese Government has made it plain that negotiations could not be reopened and that it would publish its own plan for Hong Kong. There is no guarantee that such a unilateral plan

would include all the elements included in the draft agreement, nor would it have the same status as a legally binding agreement between the two countries.

The people of Hong Kong were not offered a choice; they were given an ultimatum. Under the circumstances it was entirely predictable that the assessment office should receive only 2,494 responses, hardly a basis for claiming that the people of the territory supported the agreement. Many Hong Kong people, including myself, declined to respond to the invitation to ratify an ultimatum because we felt, in the words of one who did write in

The whole thing has not been very fair play to us because we have not had any say and there is no alternative other than not to have an agreement at all.

Yours etc,

IAN SCOTT,

University of Hong Kong,

Department of Political Science,

Pokfulam Road, Hong Kong.

These are after all the backbone of music in this country, and provide audiences often far more committed and enthusiastic than those on the South Bank.

As for musicians who "drift" into teaching on negative grounds, it seems to me that virtually all musicians, even the most successful, do some teaching, as much for variety as for financial supplement to their other work. Being a musician can be lonely; teaching sometimes represents an important link with the outside world.

Yours faithfully,

PETER FRIBBINS,

61 Silk Mill Road,

Watford, Hertfordshire.

July 12.

Nestlé rebuts synod baby-milk charge

From the Chairman and Managing Director of Nestlé

Sir, The Church of England Synod (report, July 16) decided to endorse a boycott of Nestlé in the UK in order to protest about infant formula (baby milk), a product which is neither made nor sold by Nestlé in the UK. This decision was taken without, in our view, an adequate attempt to hear the company's side of this complex issue.

At the heart of the controversy lies the question of how to make infant formula available in Third World countries, and in particular to maternity hospitals, other hospitals and charitable institutions. The need for the product is very real. Where mothers, for a variety of reasons, cannot breast-feed, infant formula is the best alternative. Insanitary conditions and poor water mean that special care has to be taken with the preparation and use of infant formula, as with any other food. In 1981 the World Health Organisation (WHO) introduced a code for the marketing of infant formula.

In all developing countries Nestlé has been in the forefront of supporting and monitoring ethical marketing practices in strict accordance with the WHO code. For example, there is no advertising to nor direct contact with mothers, and donations of infant formula are provided to hospitals only on the written request of the health professional in charge. None of this seems to have been recognised in the synod debate.

The basis for the synod's vote was the provision of free or subsidised supplies of infant formula to hospitals. These supplies are explicitly permitted by article 6.6 of the WHO code.

Even though mothers' milk is undoubtedly best, not all mothers

can breast-feed. WHO confirmed as recently as last month the circumstances where it is appropriate to provide free or subsidised supplies. Examples include babies who need to be helped in paediatric wards, orphanages, church missions and the like. Free or subsidised supplies are necessary in many countries because their health-care institutions lack the resources to buy them.

Contrary to the synod's view the problems associated with free supplies cannot be solved by companies alone. In the real world the encouragement of breast-feeding requires a co-operative effort by companies, health-care professionals and others, with governments holding a key role. Where Nestlé has unilaterally withdrawn supplies, they have come in from other sources. Unless governments take responsibility the policy recommended by the synod is an empty gesture.

Nestlé has, with other companies, joined a new initiative with WHO and Unicef to work with governments to phase out free supplies to maternity hospitals and wards, country by country. The aim is to complete this process by the end of 1992. It is unfortunate that the synod has not recognised this initiative.

I resent the attack on the moral integrity of our company and its 20,000 UK employees. Nestlé contributes enormously to many communities and operates in accordance with the highest ethical standards.

Yours faithfully,

PETER BLACKBURN,

Chairman and Managing Director,

The Nestlé Company Limited,

St George's House,

Croydon, Surrey.

July 17.

Study of London's past

From the President of the Society of Antiquaries of London

Sir, The proposal of English Heritage to phase out the grant it pays to the Museum of London to support and ensure the continuity of an integrated archaeological service for London (report, July 1, later editions), together with the decision of the Museum of London to replace its comprehensive archaeological teams with a small force solely to undertake contract archaeology (letter, July 8), place the future of rescue archaeological services in the City and all of Greater London on a precarious footing.

The Society of Antiquaries of London has a special and long-founded concern for the history and archaeology of the nation's capital. Twice this century, during the building boom of the 1920s in the City and again in 1945 to rescue archaeological information from areas devastated by the Blitz, the society took steps to ensure that archaeological sites in London were not lost. Is it not a sad irony, that the conservation-conscious 1990s, that this concern should arise again?

The programme of excavation conducted by the Museum of London in the City from 1973 and ten years later in the Greater London area has demonstrated above all else that to understand the history of early London from archaeological evidence requires the metropolitan area to be regarded as a single site with individual excavations taking place within a structured framework of research. Only in this way can the evidence from disparate sites be effectively interpreted to form a picture of the past.

The proposed new arrangements militate against a coherent approach. English Heritage's new archaeological planning and advisory section will face the assessment of the 100,000 or so planning applications submitted annually

from the Greater London area without the direct assistance of the comprehensive archaeological records assiduously built up by the Museum of London. Excavation will be carried out by whatever independent commercially based archaeological team "wins" the contract for the site. Will the story of the history of London advance again?

The Museum of London has apparently chosen its course; English Heritage struggles to fill a role that elsewhere in the country would be fulfilled by a unified local authority. Surely this is yet another timely call for a statutory strategic body for London to step from the wings and claim its inheritance.

Yours faithfully,

BARRY CUNLIFFE, President,

Society of Antiquaries of London,

Burlington House,

Piccadilly, W1.

July 11.

From the Chairman of Rescue

Sir, Reassurances by Dr Wainwright of English Heritage (July 11) will not serve to allay the consternation currently being felt throughout the archaeological world over the threat to the London archaeological service.

The implementation of the present proposals will mean the end of the integrated service which the Museum of London has been providing to the evident satisfaction of planners, developers and the community.

It is true that over the country funds for specific projects are sought on a project-by-project basis but it is also the case that where a fully integrated service is provided there is a sufficient measure of assured co-funding, usually from the local authority.

Yours faithfully,

JEAN E. MELLOR, Chairman,

Rescue (British

Archaeological Trust),

15a Bull Plain, Hertford.

July 11.

From Mr D. W. Whicker

Sir, Common Entrance examination papers have long provided entertainment for weary schoolmasters.

Sadly, the visionary gleam of Dr Tozer's pupil (July 8), who referred to a focus having a "biblical" cord, is sometimes clouded with worldly cynicism.

My father, a preparatory school headmaster for many years, particularly treasured the memory of a boy who, with an anticipatory slip of the pen, recorded "thou shalt not admit adultery" as the seventh commandment.

Yours faithfully,

D. W. WHICKER,

2 The Park,

Canford Magna,

Wimborne, Dorset.

From Mrs Jean C. Cowley

Sir, The Church extending its influence to the before-life? Has Dr Tozer never read the first chapter of Jeremiah's prophecy (1:5)? God said to Jeremiah: "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you".

Yours faithfully,

JEAN C. COWLEY,

53 Hillcrest, Brighton, East Sussex.

July 12.

From Mr J. P. Lavelle

Sir, Should I still be referring to the small lock-away in my car as the "glove compartment"? I have yet to meet anyone who uses it for this purpose.

I remain, Sir, yours faithfully,

J. LAVELLE,

35 Berners Drive,

St Albans, Hertford

Examination results from Warwick university



Day of reckoning: students at Warwick look for their newly posted examination results

[illegible]

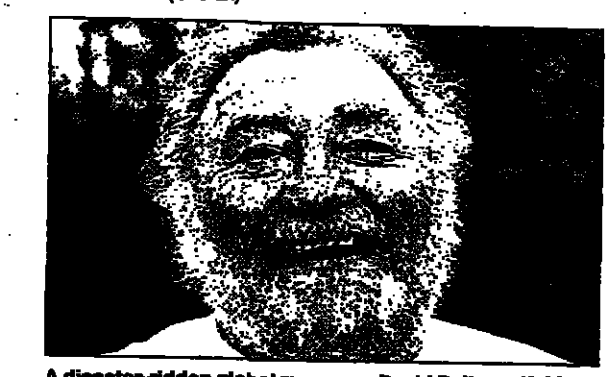
List of degrees awarded by the university of Hull

[illegible]



BBC

6.00 Cee-fax
6.30 BBC Breakfast News
9.05 Phoochie. Cartoon adventures of the boy puppet 9.25 Hartbeat. Art activities with Tony Hart, Margot Wilson and Alison Miller (r). (Cee-fax)
10.00 News, regional news and weather 11.05 Playdays (r) 10.30 Double Dare. Peter Simon urges contestants through the tricky obstacle course (r) 10.50 The O-Zone. Chart-oriented music magazine
11.00 News, regional news and weather 11.05 Peaceable Kingdom. Aardvark. Drama starring Lindsay Wagner as the director of Los Angeles zoo (r) 11.55 The Travel Show. Traveler. Andy Crane samples the delights of the northern French resort of Deauville (r)
12.00 News, regional news and weather 12.05 The Garden Party. Magazine show from Glasgow. Amid the botanical vegetation, the team looks at life below the poverty line, the debate over tobacco advertising, and graffiti in the fair city of Edinburgh. Wales: Cricket 12.55 Regional News and weather
1.00 One O'Clock News and weather
1.30 Neighbours (r). (Cee-fax) 1.50 Summer Journey: The Bristol Channel Coast - From Head to Toe. Angela Ripston finds more fascination along the north Devon and Somerset coasts (r)
2.20 He's Playing our Song. Five guests at Ellington Park hotel in Stratford-upon-Avon relive experiences through the music of cocktail pianist Barrington Brown (r). (Cee-fax)
3.00 Open Golf. Live coverage of the 120th British Open championship on Royal Birkdale
4.00 Red and Blue Double Bill 4.10 The All New Popeye Show 4.30 Dizzy Heights. Comedy with Heep and Wall (r)
5.00 Newsround 5.10 Record Breakers. Roy Castle and Cheryl Baker dig out some more obscure facts, including someone who aspires to be the world stamp licking champion (r)
5.35 Neighbours (r). (Cee-fax) Northern Ireland: Sportswide. 5.40 Inside Ulster
6.00 Six O'Clock News with Anna Ford and Andrew Harvey. Weather 6.30 Regional News Magazine. Northern Ireland: Neighbours 7.00 Top of the Pops Introduced by Jaidé Brambles (simultaneous broadcast on Radio 1)
7.30 EastEnders. (Cee-fax)



A disaster-ridden global message: David Bellamy (6.00pm)

6.00 Bellamy Rides Again: The Human Race.
● CHOICE: Concluding series on the earth's life-support systems, David Bellamy pulls his argument together and outlines his programme for survival. If none of it is new, the presentation is persuasive. Bellamy may irritate on occasions but he is a superlative communicator. The programme is almost worth watching for a joke about a seagull, a yuppie and a Porsche. Seriously though, and underneath his craggy charm Bellamy is deadly serious, the message is that the globe is at the brink of disaster. Bellamy blames, among other things, acid erosion, third world debt and over-population. These are nearly alienated as desert, debt and the demography of despair. If Bellamy sometimes gives the impression of wishing we could all go back to subsistence agriculture, his point about the imbalance of resources between the rich and poor nations is irrefutable. (Cee-fax)
6.30 On the Up. Dump scab sitcom starring Dennis Waterman (r). (Cee-fax)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Martyn Lewis. (Cee-fax) Regional news and weather
9.30 The Drug Wars: Camerona. Concluding part of the mini-series. Kiki Camerona is found murdered, spurring on his colleagues to bring down the Mexican drug barons responsible. But with the Mexican authorities still obstructing the US drug enforcement agents, other less legal means are considered. With Steve Bauer, Craig T. Nelson, Treat Williams and Elizabeth Pena. (Cee-fax)
11.05 Sponser for Hire. Private investigations by the New England sleuth. When a girl's dreams predict murder, Sponser sets out to save a priest whose death is foretold in one of the nightmares
11.50 Weather. Wales: Cricket 12.25 News headlines and weather

BBC 2

6.45 Open University: Physics - Phonons. Ends at 7.10
8.00 News 8.15 Westminster
9.00 Catchword. Paul Cole with another round of the word game (r)
9.30 Film: The Woman Between (1937, b/w). Stodgy melodrama, which never quite gets off the ground, about a jinxed French first world war pilot (Paul Muni) in competition with Louis Hayward for the affections of Miriam Hopkins. Directed by Anatole Litvak
10.50 Open Golf. The start of live coverage of the 120th British Open championship from Royal Birkdale. Manicure the microphone through to the sinking of the final putt are Peter Allen, Bruce Critchley, Alex Hay, Cive Clark and Mike Hughesdon
1.20 Greenedown. Fun for the young (r)
1.35 Open Golf. Continued coverage, including at 2.00 News and weather. Wales: Cricket and Open Golf
3.00 News and weather, followed by Westminster Live 3.50 News and weather, followed by regional news
4.00 Open Golf. Further commentary from Royal Birkdale. Wales: Cricket and Open Golf



Environment-friendly Norsk Hydro: Richard North (7.30pm)

7.30 Business Matters: Managing to be Green.
● CHOICE: Richard North of The Sunday Times reports on three companies, two giants and one relative minor, who have started to take the environmental message to heart. Norsk Hydro is Norway's biggest and most successful industrial corporation. In 1988 there was public concern that the company was polluting coastal waters. The response was a more caring attitude, with every manager being made environmentally responsible. Pilkington Glass did things the British way. There was no scandal to propel it into action but a couple of years ago it decided to adopt a formal green policy. In contrast to Norsk Hydro, managers were not forced to take on an environmental role but were asked to volunteer. Meanwhile at Esland International they did a Harvey-Jones and brought in an outside troubleshooter. They were also prepared to let the cameras in with her
8.00 Italian Regional Cookery: The Deep South. Valentina Harris heads down into the heart of Italy, showing on fresh seafood, orchard fruits and marzipan tomatoes as she goes (r). (Cee-fax) Wales: Gardening Together
8.30 Sport - On the Line. The mix of investigative journalism and sport has managed to hit on a reasonable subject this week, dredging the depths of European discontent over venues for the Ryder Cup. Despite the outstanding contribution made by players of the calibre of Severiano Ballesteros, Bernhard Langer and Jose-Maria Olazabal to the triumphant late Eighties, the powers that be steadfastly refuse to let the match be staged anywhere outside the British Isles. Anna Walker and Ray Stubbs look at the threat by the Europeans to boycott the event unless there is a change of venue
9.00 The Travel Show Investigates the battle between conservation and tourism in Greece and Northern Ireland
9.30 Update the Sun: Two Girls Go Hunting.
● CHOICE: There is a lot of anthropology on the box just now, most of it from Ethiopia. After last night's Disappearing World we return to the country for a film by Joanna Hall and Jean Lydell about the Hamar community, who proudly feature in the pages of the Observer's World. It follows two brides-to-be, Duka and Gardil. The marriages have been arranged and the women will not meet their husbands until the wedding. Women's lib has evidently not penetrated this part of the world. Asked whether her husband will beat her, Gardil breaks into a huge grin and replies: "Of course". For the marriage ceremony, Duka has her head shaved and her hair styled in a bun. This is not a ritual, but her mother-in-law, who proclaims: "I've given birth to Duka". The divorce rate among the Hamar people is not revealed, nor is the level of mother-in-law jokes. By rights, both should be high. (Cee-fax)
10.30 City Shorts: Missing Finger. The latest in the series of quirky films about urban life follows a cooking accident which turns a romantic evening into a nightmare. With Rena Eutenei and Adjuna Andoh
10.30 Newsnight presented by Jeremy Paxman
11.15 Open Golf. Steve Rider introduces highlights of the first round play from Royal Birkdale 11.55 Weather
12.00 Weekend Outlook. A preview of the weekend's Open University 12.05am Open University A Censor in the Family. Ends at 12.35

ITV

6.00 TV-am
9.25 All Closed Up. Game show for married couples, hosted by David Hamilton 9.55 Thames News and weather
10.00 Film: One of Our Dinosaurs is Missing (1975) starring Helen Hayes and Peter Ustinov. The conclusion of yesterday's amiable family comedy. The nannies have to be first in the race to find the microfilm hidden in the dinosaur. Directed by Robert Stevenson
10.50 News headlines 10.55 Good Morning, Miss Bliss. Classroom comedy drama starring Hayley Mills 11.25 OX Teles. Animated series 11.55 Thames News
12.00 Disney Cartoon featuring Mickey Mouse 12.10 The Riddlers. Children's puppet series (r)
12.30 News with John Suchet. Weather 1.10 Thames News and weather
1.20 Home and Away. (Oracle) 1.50 A Country Practice
2.20 Wish You Were Here...? Special. John Carter visits the Hawaiian islands for an exhilarating mix of American energy and Polynesian romance 2.50 Crazy Conspiracy. Game show hosted by Chris Tarrant, where the teams compete to guess the identity of mystery celebrities by comparing them with objects. Team leaders Paula Wilcox and Simon Williams are joined by guests Graham Bickley, Mike Smith, Jayne Irving and Barbara Dickson
3.15 ITN News headlines 3.20 Thames News headlines 3.25 The Young Doctors. Australian medical drama set in a large city hospital 3.55 Scooby Doo 4.15 Disney's Duck Tales 4.40 Fun House. Slapstick game show for teams (r)
5.10 Thames Action. Investigative consumer programme introduced by Jack King. Penny Jones presents an investigation into the royal charity magazine which took the public for a ride
5.40 News with Carol Barnes. (Oracle) Weather
5.55 Thames Health. Jackie Sprackley with another case history of a person with an eating disorder
6.00 Home and Away (r). (Oracle)
6.30 Thames News and weather
7.00 Emmerdale. Soap set in the Yorkshire Dales. (Oracle)
7.30 Survival. The First 30 Years: Marmalade. A look at the wild horses of the Montana mystique (r). (Oracle)
8.00 The Bill: Joey. A young mugger (Neil Maskell) is arrested by PC Loxton (Tom Burtcher) and brought into the Sun Hill station. But he is so clearly terrified that questions are raised about Loxton's methods of arrest. (Oracle)



Stop press: investigative reporter Roger Cook (8.30pm)

8.30 The Cook Report Update. A round-up of the latest developments in cases investigated during the recent series
9.00 LA Law. In the glossy legal soap, C.J. Lamb (Amanda Donohoe) has to argue a client's custody case in front of a native American Indian court. Becker's marriage problems lose the firm a major client and Rollins is falsely arrested on a rape charge. (Oracle)
10.00 News at Ten with Alistair Burnet and Alistair Stewart. (Oracle) Weather 10.30 Thames News and weather
10.40 The City Programme examines the UK tourism industry to see if it will defy the recession; and a look at the housing market - is it poised to climb and boom?
11.10 01. Includes Paul Merton reviewing the new Kevin Costner film Robin Hood, Prince of Thieves and Josie Lawrence on In Bed With Madonna
11.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H. Australian drama series set in a women's remand centre
12.30am Contacts. Television's answer to the personal column, introduced by David Ward and Susan Ryland
1.00 In the Heat of the Night. Parker's girlfriend Kate is accused of murder. Starring Carroll O'Connor and Howard Rollins
2.00 Film: The Great British Train Robbery (1967, b/w). A German film starring Horst Tappert (of Dornier fame) and Hans Coschy. Semi-documentary reconstruction of Britain's biggest robbery, the theft of millions of pounds from a Royal Mail train in 1963. Directed by John Mackenzie and Claus Peter Witt
4.00 Open Up. More young comedians try to entertain insomniacs
4.30 America's Top Ten (r)
5.00 Video-fashion. Focusing on new styles in menswear (r)
5.30 ITN Morning News with Tim Nelson. Ends at 6.00

CHANNEL 4

6.00 The Channel Four Daily
9.25 The Great Space Race: The Next Civilization. The last part of the first frontier series looks at how man might establish lunar colonies
10.30 Flight Over Spain. Cuenca in the La Mancha plain from the sky. Narrated by Alan Hargreaves (r). (Teletext)
11.00 As It Happens Inside. Unedited reporting. Andy Kershaw pops into Wormwood Scrubs prison for an hour (r)
12.00 The Parliament Programme
12.30 Business Daily. All the news from the markets this morning
1.00 Seasons Street. The guest star is Madeleine Kahn (r)
2.00 On the March: The Cold War - Act One. Pictorial history series drawn from film archives. Fred Hayfield presents a report about the 1951 crisis in Iran when the Anglo-Iranian oil company was nationalised (r)
2.30 Film: King Arthur was a Gentleman (1942, b/w). Arthur Askey makes merry in a major wartime ris-iculis about a Camelot obsessed soldier who becomes a hero when he believes he finds Excalibur. Also starring Evelyn Dail, Anne Shelton, Max Bacon and Jack Train. Directed by Marcel Varnel
4.20 Pete Smith Specialities: Aquatic Kids (b/w). A group of youngsters demonstrate water-skiing tricks at Florida's Cypress Gardens
4.30 Countdown. Words and numbers quiz
5.00 Laurel and Hardy. Adventures of the cartoon Stan and Ollie
5.05 The Oprah Winfrey Show. Actress All MacGraw talks, for what seems like the umpteenth time, about her new book Moving Pictures
6.00 The Marshall Chronicles. Gwilym Manhattan sitcom about a teenage hero amused and abused by the Big Apple's little ironies. Marshall has to pay back a tough kid who saves him from a beating by helping him cheat in an exam
6.30 Tour de France. Stage 13 - Pau to Jax. The first official mountain stage, a distance of 221km embracing four big Pyrenean climbs
7.00 Channel 4 News with Jon Snow and Zeinab Badawi. (Teletext) Weather
7.50 Comment
8.00 Flowering Peasants: Some Like It Hot. Anna Pavord continues her step by step guide to making your flower garden grow by showing how tropical and exotic plants can be encouraged to take root. (Teletext)
8.30 Rising Damp. Classic Seventies sitcom with Leonard Rossiter forcing it as Rigby, the lusty owner of a seedy boarding house. This week, he is out to get his candidate running for the local elections, but his tenants have a different idea of democracy. (Teletext)



Bumpy ride: Michael Palin, right, with Michael Angelis (6.00pm)

9.00 G.B.H. Over and Out.
● CHOICE: A straw poll, totally unscientific, reveals a widespread feeling that GPH has not been worth its more than ten hours of screen time. What drama would be? But if there has been packing and repetition and a reluctance to move forward, this has still been an outstanding achievement. Alan Bleasdale may have fooled us by suggesting that we were in for a thinly-fictional account of hard left politics on Merseyside. The political element has been there and it has been presented unflinchingly. But Bleasdale is a writer who constantly confounds expectations and tonight's final episode still has surprises. Bleasdale has been served by two superb performances. For those who have followed GPH through, Robert Lindsay's crumbling city boss and Michael Palin's decent, insecure schoolmaster have become etched on the memory. Thursday nights will seem strange without them. (Teletext)
10.30 Fragile Earth: Slapdash - The Tidal Forest. The ecology series ventures into the mangrove swamps of Borneo where nature has adapted to what appears to be an impossible environment. Despite tropical heat, suffocating mud and fluctuating salt tides, flora and fauna have shown incredible resilience. There are land-dwelling fish, amphibious trees and submarine caterpillars, as well as more classes of life form than anywhere else on the planet (r)
11.35 A Week in Politics - Let's Stopping. Andrew Rawnsley and Vincent
1.05am Tour de France. A repeat of the programme shown at 6.30. Ends at 1.35

TV VARIATIONS

ANGLIA
As London except: 5.10pm-5.40 Blockbusters 8.20-9.00 News 10.45-11.00 News 11.10-11.30 News 11.40-12.00 News 12.10-12.30 News 12.40-1.00 News 1.10-1.30 News 1.40-1.50 News 2.00-2.10 News 2.20-2.30 News 2.40-2.50 News 3.00-3.10 News 3.20-3.30 News 3.40-3.50 News 4.00-4.10 News 4.20-4.30 News 4.40-4.50 News 5.00-5.10 News 5.20-5.30 News 5.40-5.50 News 6.00-6.10 News 6.20-6.30 News 6.40-6.50 News 7.00-7.10 News 7.20-7.30 News 7.40-7.50 News 8.00-8.10 News 8.20-8.30 News 8.40-8.50 News 9.00-9.10 News 9.20-9.30 News 9.40-9.50 News 10.00-10.10 News 10.20-10.30 News 10.40-10.50 News 11.00-11.10 News 11.20-11.30 News 11.40-11.50 News 12.00-12.10 News 12.20-12.30 News 12.40-12.50 News 1.00-1.10 News 1.20-1.30 News 1.40-1.50 News 2.00-2.10 News 2.20-2.30 News 2.40-2.50 News 3.00-3.10 News 3.20-3.30 News 3.40-3.50 News 4.00-4.10 News 4.20-4.30 News 4.40-4.50 News 5.00-5.10 News 5.20-5.30 News 5.40-5.50 News 6.00-6.10 News 6.20-6.30 News 6.40-6.50 News 7.00-7.10 News 7.20-7.30 News 7.40-7.50 News 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UK 'must develop strategy to save coal'

BRITAIN must develop a national energy strategy to ensure the preservation of an adequate coal industry, the Commons energy select committee says.

In a unanimous report that is highly critical of the government, the committee said Britain had failed to maintain its lead in the development of clean coal technology, and further sharp decline in the coal industry appeared inevitable. The report, *Clean Coal Technology and the Coal Market after 1993*, was hailed by Frank Dobson, shadow energy spokesman, as a vindication of Labour criticisms. British Coal managers were delighted by the committee's call for government to take strategic decisions about the industry's future.

The report suggests that up to 44 collieries are likely to close by 2000, reducing the number of deep mines to 20 or 25 with the loss of 32,000 jobs.

Michael Clark, the committee's chairman, said it was the eleventh hour for the government to develop a strategy for the coal industry. The report also called for the government to increase its support for the development of more efficient and less polluting coal fired power stations.

Coherent strategy, page 27

Microgen slips

Microgen Holdings, the information management services group, is holding the interim dividend at 2.2p after pre-tax profits of £4.33 million (£4.53 million) to end-April. It says this financial year will be one of consolidation.

Times, page 27

Bulmer rises

In spite of a 6.7 per cent fall in sales to £211 million, pre-tax profits at HP Bulmer Holdings, the Hereford cider company, rose 20 per cent to £14.4 million in the year to April 26. The final dividend rises to 5.15p (4.77p), making a total of 8.35p (7.62p).

Times, page 27

THE POUND	
US dollar	1.6525 (+0.0060)
German mark	2.9588 (same)
Exchange index	90.5 (-0.1)

STOCK MARKET	
FT 30 Share	1978.6 (+7.2)
FT-SE 100	2561.0 (+4.2)
New York Dow Jones	2990.61 (+6.71)
Tokyo Nikkei Ave	23060.70 (-314.45)

MAJOR CHANGES

RISERS	
Gwynedd	225p (+9p)
ECG Group	45p (+9p)
Bank Ory	68p (+12p)
Bowater	632p (+13p)
Charter Cons	491p (+11p)
Hawker Siddeley	580p (+26p)
RAM	520p (+9p)
Ranger	448p (+10p)
WH Smith A	423p (+11p)
Schroders	942p (+7p)
Base	293p (+8p)
British Polythene	180p (+10p)
Elc Data Process	907p (+9p)
FALLERS	
Unilever	738p (-12p)
Reuters	797p (-10p)
Utd Silecuts	151p (-7p)
Cardiff Property	225p (-15p)
Pearson	725p (-7p)

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base	11%
3-month interbank	11 1/4%
3-month acceptable	10 1/4-10 3/4%
US Prime Rate	8 1/4%
Federal Funds	5 1/4%
3-month Treasury Bills	5.60-5.55%
30-year bonds	9 1/2-9 1/4%

CURRENCIES

London		New York	
£ \$1.6525		\$ £1.6525	
£ DM2.9588		DM £1.7955	
£ Sfr2.5672		Sfr £1.5535	
£ FF10.0327		FF £6.0715	
£ Yen226.23		Yen £136.74	
£ Index 90.5		Index 90.5	
ECU £0.65582		SDR £0.81272	
ECU £474.38		SDR £248.015	

GOLD

London Fixing	
AM \$329.20 pm \$328.80	
close \$328.70-329.20 (\$223.10)	
22K Gold	
New York	
Comex \$328.95-370.45	

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Aug)	\$20.05 bid (\$19.85)
Denotes latest trading price	

RETAIL PRICES

RPI: 134.1 June (1987=100)

Lilley seeks talks with brewers over handling of pub tenants

By ROSS TIEMAN
INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

PETER Lilley, the trade secretary, is to call meetings with the heads of Britain's biggest brewers to express his concern at their treatment of tenants.

His action follows talks yesterday with representatives of the National Licensed Victuallers Association, who told the minister that 11,000 publicans face eviction orders and excessive rent increases.

The association blames government efforts to reform the licensed trade and is urging Mr Lilley to force brewers to accept

arbitration on new contracts with tenants. Mr Lilley's decision was hailed as a milestone by the association, the president of which, Alan Bartlett, said: "If the brewers heed the minister's approach, there may be no need for a costly and time consuming review, which can only be an embarrassment to all concerned."

The trade secretary's decision to call in the brewers reflects concern among ministers about the impact of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission report on Britain's brewing industry and the Beer Supply Orders issued by the trade department in its wake. The commission's report sought

to break down the "tie", which requires many publicans to buy beer from the brewery that owns the public house they run. The six biggest brewers were required to free from the tie half of the public houses they own over a limit of 2,000.

Mr Bartlett said: "What they have done is issued some 11,000 licenses with notice to quit before the July 11 deadline after which licensees would have been protected by the Landlord and Tenant Act."

The brewers and trade department insist that the notices to quit are a technical measure to enable new tenancy agreements to be negotiated. But the association says

many licensees are unfairly being asked for sharply increased rents.

Mr Bartlett said: "Many licensees are being forced out of their pubs because the rents being asked on brewery leases make the business unviable. Those who have signed the leases are being forced to put up their prices to cover the extra cost. In the end, it is the customer who suffers."

The licensed trade has said attempts to break down the tie would cut the number of public houses and lead to higher prices. However, the trade department says the reforms have begun to widen consumer choice, and that small breweries have been

able to expand their estates by purchasing public houses that the largest brewers were obliged to free from the tie.

The association, like the brewers, has formidable lobbying skills, and has the support of 80 MPs for an early day motion in the Commons over the disruption in the licensed trade and its consequences. If Mr Lilley fails to persuade the brewers to defuse the row with their tenants, the association is likely to increase pressure for the Office of Fair Trading to review the impact of the commission report.

Call time on orders, page 27

Call for codes of practice

Lamont clears banks of overcharging

By NEIL BENNETT, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

THE Chancellor has ordered chairmen of the high street banks to draw up codes of conduct for small business customers after a flood of complaints about banking practices. But he said there was no evidence of a cartel among the banks to overcharge small business customers.

Norman Lamont has given the chairman of the eight largest banks in Britain a

seven-point plan to improve their service, and warned them he will check on progress next year. His order comes after an intensive enquiry by the Treasury and Bank of England into banks and their small business customers.

The Chancellor's decision to demand codes of conduct from the banks comes after he received more than 1,000 complaints about banking service. "Some of the complaints are serious and reflect an unprecedented degree of pub-

lic concern about the conduct and attitude of the banks. The banks' chairmen are well seized of the government's concern about this issue and have undertaken to make sure that their managers are fully aware of the need to handle small business customers with due care," he said.

Mr Lamont has sent a copy of the report to Sir Gordon Borrie, director-general of the Office of Fair Trading, and asked him to decide over continuing the bank cartel enquiry.

Mr Lamont announced the results of his enquiry in a reply to a written question in the House of Commons. His statement said there was no evidence of a cartel among the banks to increase charges for small businesses. He met the heads of the big four banks on Friday to ask them to produce the new codes.

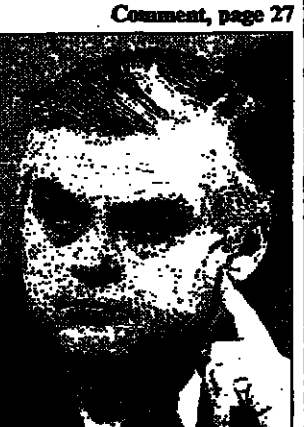
Almost all the 4.5 million companies had seen interest rates fall by at least 3 per cent after the first 3.5 per cent of base rate cuts, and 70 per cent received the full benefit, it said. But it shows banks have raised charges for small businesses by up to 55 per cent in the past year, sometimes without informing them.

The banks must each draw up a code which will ensure they make the terms of their accounts reasonable, and that the customer is given the terms in writing. Small business must also be given a tariff of bank charges, and warned of any exceptional charges. The banks must also explain the basis of interest charges and tell customers how they can complain.

The high street banks welcomed Mr Lamont's report and said it vindicated them against charges that they were operating a cartel. National Westminster, said it already followed many of the points in the code, but would try to improve communications.

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Comment, page 27



Lamont: called chairmen in



Rough justice: a demonstrator is kicked by one of the policeman controlling a crowd protesting at the liquidation of the Bank of Credit and Commerce Hong Kong by the colony's government yesterday. Report, page 29

Bank hands report to Abu Dhabi

By NEIL BENNETT AND SHEILA GUNN

THE Bank of England has been forced to hand over the report into the fraud at the Bank of Credit and Commerce International to the authorities in Abu Dhabi under threat of legal action.

The Bank handed the report to Simmons & Simmons, solicitors to Abu Dhabi's ruler, yesterday morning after BCCI and the Abu Dhabi government gave a notice of intention to seek a High Court order to gain access to it.

Until now, advisers to Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan al-Nahyan, the ruler of Abu Dhabi, who controlled 77.4 per cent of the collapsed bank, have not been allowed to see the full report from Price Waterhouse, BCCI's auditor, which was delivered to the Bank last month. This report caused the Bank to initiate a worldwide shutdown of BCCI.

John Chadwick, QC, the barrister representing the Abu Dhabi government and BCCI, said he wanted the report so the authorities could decide what action to take in the High Court on Monday, when the Bank applies to wind up BCCI.

The Bank's winding-up petition is also being sent to representatives of BCCI's employees and depositors who plan to challenge it.

The Bank has, meanwhile, hit back at suggestions that it failed to act when fraud was uncovered at BCCI in Price Waterhouse reports last year.

A Bank spokesman admitted that a report last October had revealed a series of false loans at BCCI, but insisted that there had been dealt with by management changes and a capital injection from the Abu Dhabi authorities.

Hasan Agha Abedi, the bank's founder, and Swaleh Naqvi, its chief executive, resigned a day after the report

was delivered. The spokesman said: "Last year's problems certainly called for urgent remedial action, which was taken, but not the closure of the bank."

"Closure, with all the hardship involved, can only be contemplated in the most extreme circumstances. This year's disclosures produced evidence of widespread fraud, deception and false accounting which had not been available before. Remedial action was seen to be impossible. That called for a more serious response."

Robin Leigh-Pemberton, Governor of the Bank of England, will be questioned by the Commons Treasury committee next Tuesday over his supervision of BCCI.

MPs on the Conservative-dominated committee decided to take the unprecedented step of holding hearings during the summer recess if they are not satisfied with the Governor's answer.

In a private session yesterday, the committee, chaired by Terence Higgins, former Conservative Treasury minister, agreed to start the parliamentary enquiry into the BCCI affair with a public,

televised session with the Governor. The committee is to "consider whether to broaden its enquiry to cover the operation of the Banking Act 1987 following the evidence of the Governor."

Some of the MPs feel Mr Leigh-Pemberton should be given a chance to explain publicly the Bank of England's supervision of BCCI.

They also want to use their parliamentary powers to call for papers, including the Price Waterhouse reports, which crucially influenced the timing of the Governor's decision to close the bank.



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EC seeks the freedom of the skies

By WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU

EUROPEAN airlines should be able to compete freely throughout the European Community from 1993, according to an ambitious proposal approved by the European Commission yesterday.

The proposal forms the centrepiece of the administration's open-skies policy, a blueprint for the deregulation of Europe's air traffic. The most important changes include the deregulation of cabotage, under which an EC-registered airline could operate domestic flights in other European countries, and double-disapproval, which stipulates that an airline's right to set its own fares for cross-border flights could be challenged only if governments at each end of a flight vetoed the fare.

European transport ministers are expected to make a final decision next year. Transport ministers will also discuss a proposal to liberalise allocation of slots

at airports. Under the proposals approved yesterday, the right of cabotage should be established in 1993 as part of Europe's single market programme, although the commission seems more amenable on the timing of the principle of double-disapproval, whose introduction might be delayed until 1996, according to Karel van Miert, the transport commissioner.

Mr van Miert rejected allegations that deregulation would lead to a repeat of the American experience, where a series of airline collapses resulted in greater market concentration and eventually higher prices, after an initial period of cut-throat competition.

Before an airline can obtain a licence, it will need to have a minimum starting capital of Ecu100,000, EC majority ownership, meet specific insurance requirements, and will need to submit the accounts to the commission for

inspection and to meet technical and safety specifications.

Britain and The Netherlands are the most enthusiastic about airline liberalisation, while France, Germany and Italy are thought to be more sceptical.

British Airways gave a muted response. A spokeswoman said: "We welcome the proposal for the freedom of market entry, but we are disappointed that the industry will still be subject to price regulation. On a more principal point, we don't feel there is ever going to be fair competition as long as governments own stakes in airlines."

□ Banque Nationale de Paris is in talks over a stake in state-owned Air France, which wants to increase its capital base by Fr1 billion. Air France says the French government has confirmed plans to inject Fr2 billion in capital this year.

Comment, page 27

A bad day for the bank bashers

COMMENT

The future over bank lending to small business has ended with by far and away the most serious charge against the banks not proven. The mass of complaints from individuals and small business lobbyists showed no evidence of collusion or cartel. That will surprise few with reasonable knowledge of the banking business.

The ferocious competition for customers has if anything led to substantial losses in many areas of the business. This suggests poor judgment on the part of the lenders and over-enthusiastic attitudes to winning business rather than covert price-fixing on a grand scale.

Britain's banks have for years now seen a substantial influx of overseas rivals keen to break into the domestic market for both personal and business loans. Margins and the ability to generate fee income have reflected this competition. It is true to say that overseas banks have concentrated on larger corporate customers and the high street banks have retained an overwhelming share of lending to

small enterprises. But in order to be seen to be even handed, the Treasury is, nevertheless, passing on the complaints received to the Office of Fair Trading. There, Sir Gordon Borrie and his colleagues are expert in the ways of cartels and can be expected to find one—if it exists.

Nevertheless, the widespread feeling that our banks have been harsh on some customers should be a warning that all is not well. There is nothing like enough transparency on how charges are calculated and not enough prior warning as to when additional fees and charges will be levied. There is no doubt either that some bank staff give the impression of high-handed treatment and lack of understanding of customer needs. But this is no national scandal as some of the more hysterical bank bashers would have us believe.

But the Chancellor's call for a code of best practice should serve

as notice to the banks that paying lip service to such an idea will no longer suffice and that they must ensure that small business customers obtain fair and reasonable treatment.

Let nobody think that such moves will end all complaints about banks' behaviour. Businessmen themselves are not always angelic when companies meet financial difficulties. When a man has put his heart and soul into building a business and a substantial part of his wealth too, the last thing he will admit is that he may be a bad or even hopeless credit risk. His inclination is often to shoot the messenger rather than take heed of the message. Short of outright refusal, the only means of discouragement open to a bank manager is to charge penal rates. The small business lobby

knows it cannot flourish without help from banks and should accept as a key element of a symbiotic relationship that banks are not charities but businesses too. Losses caused by bad customers must sooner or later be made up by the good. Otherwise the bank loses its capital and thus its ability to lend. What chance then for the hopeful entrepreneur?

Open skies

The deregulation of Europe's air traffic is a tricky business. Nobody knows this better than the European Commission, which yesterday approved a brave deregulation proposal by Karel van Miert, the transport commissioner.

The commission has gone as

far as can be expected to make a genuine foray into what some governments still perceive to be a taboo subject. But whatever the eventual outcome of deliberations by transport ministers, who have the final say on this matter, it is already clear that a single European market for air traffic will at best be heavily regulated and at worst will not be worth its name. On balance, the latter seems more likely.

The key element of Mr van Miert's proposals includes an extension of the rights of an airline to offer domestic services in another country and a liberalisation of pricing through the introduction of the double-disapproval principle, under which an airline's right to set a new cross-border fare can be challenged only if vetoed by the two governments involved. This itself does not pose an end to regulation, but it makes interference by governments

somewhat more difficult. The right to offer domestic services abroad, in addition to the right to take on-board passengers during stop-over flights, is a well-intended aim, but has already been rejected by transport ministers once. That was before the recession. Today, much of the European airline industry is in a financial precarious position and political resistance will be even fiercer. Mr van Miert realises this and admits so openly.

His liberalisation plans would be of little practical value, if they were not complemented with a liberal pan-European regime on slot allocation. This subject is regulated in a different directive, which was approved by the commission last year, and whose chance of adaptation Mr van Miert only recently described as "remote". Most European governments would not wish to see a replacement of the so-called grandfather rights, which give established airlines the right of first refusal on the allocation of new slots, in favour of an auction process, as practised in Britain, where new slots go to the highest bidder.

Call time on the Beer Orders before the industry goes flat

Roger Moate
comments on how
the MMC report
has affected
the licensed trade

THE Monopolies and Mergers Commission report on beer supply was published in March 1989 and, in effect, decreed ownership by the brewers of their retail outlets, the tied-house estates, was contrary to public interest.

Vertical integration of this sort clearly offended the textbook theorists, although the MMC later reversed its views when it came to dealing with petrol retailing.

Never mind that there was little evidence of consumer dissatisfaction, that British beer prices were among the lowest in the West, that there had been big investment and improvement in public houses, and there was an unrivalled variety of beers. Never mind that it took the six leading brewers to account for 75 per cent of the market, and that there were about 64 brewers in the United Kingdom, compared with far greater concentration in almost every other country.

In its wisdom, the MMC decreed that vertical integration was bad news and, sadly, this seriously flawed judgment was accepted by Lord Young, the then trade and industry secretary.

Now, all around us, we see the evidence of the harm done by this MMC report. Since publication, we have had closures and mergers, and the top four brewers account for nearly 70 per cent of the market against 58 per cent in 1989. Beer prices have risen, thousands of public house tenants face eviction and uncertainty surrounds the brewers.

It could have been worse. There was an outcry in parliament, from a number of Conservative MPs, against the implementation of the report, and this resulted in big relief to regional brewers and introduction of a requirement for brewers owning more than



Host of protest: 1,000 tenants met this week at Doncaster to discuss brewery policies

2,000 public houses to release from the half, rather than all, of their estate, in excess of 2,000 by November 1, 1992.

But even those improvements were then criticised by the Labour front bench, which had urged the full implementation of the report. Now, however, there has been a total change in their position. They call for an urgent review, saying that we cannot wait for the OFT review in 1993/4.

By then, they say, there will be more concentration, job

private homes. Sadly, Peter Lillet, the trade secretary, has shown few signs of responding to representations.

Recent statements suggest he is being poorly advised about the true number of notices to quit, either issued or in the pipeline, and that he believes that most notices to quit will not lead to eviction. A public house, he told us, can be freed up by granting a new lease to the existing tenant; selling to that tenant; selling to a third party with the same

regional brewers own a total of only 5,000 public houses compared with the 17,000 that have to be released from tie.

In August last year, I drew attention in *The Times* to these likely consequences and to the encouragement that the MMC would give to the "Fosterisation" of what has been a rich and diverse supply of British beer. In parliament, we had already pointed out that the ending of vertical integration in Australia had resulted in much higher prices and 92 per cent domination of the industry by two brewers.

There was then a warning against the further concentration posed by the Grand-Met/Elders acquisition. Again, the warnings fell on deaf ears. All this is paving the way to the further concentration and greater market domination by the national or international brewer with the biggest advertising budget.

The MMC report and its remedies have been a disaster from start to finish. It is time the DTI recognised the harm that has been done and sought ways of ameliorating the effects on tenants, brewers and consumers. The best way would be to repeal the orders.

Roger Moate is Conservative MP for Faversham, Kent.

Since the report, prices have risen, thousands of tenants face eviction and uncertainty surrounds brewers

losses and less consumer choice. This reversal came after a flood of protest from thousands of public house tenants who had notice to quit.

This dawning of reality does, perhaps, give rise to some faint hope that the government might look again urgently at the consequences of the Beer Orders before even more damage is done to public house tenants. Our social fabric faces deep change as many of our public houses face closure or change to

tenant, or selling with vacant possession.

This may be so in theory, but the reality is harsher. Many cannot or will not sign new full-repairing leases required under the orders. How many tenants can afford to buy a property in recession?

Of course, a few existing tenants will lease and a few will buy and, no doubt, a few regional brewers will purchase more public houses at good prices. But all that is at the margin. Between them, small

BRITAIN'S coal industry stands at a crossroads, and the government cannot abdicate responsibility for its future. If the government fails to preserve a strategic mining capacity, market forces will cause a sharp and permanent contraction.

That, in essence, is the conclusion of the Commons energy select committee, of which Michael Clark is chairman, report into Clean Coal Technology and the Coal Market after 1993, published yesterday.

The message is embarrassing for the government. Since 1979, the report says, £7 billion has been invested in improving the efficiency of Britain's state-owned coal industry. In addition, £17 billion of government assistance has been provided in one form or another. Is all that spending to be disregarded?

In examining Britain's efforts to develop less polluting, more efficient coal-fired power stations, the select committee concluded that clean coal technology was central to the future market for coal, and broadened its research accordingly.

Despite the development of nuclear plants, and the construction, during the Seventies and Eighties of a handful of oil-fired power stations, coal remains the main fuel for power generation in Britain. The privatisation of the electricity industry, however, has thrown that into question.

Generating companies are now free to buy cheaper foreign coal for their existing power stations, and to build gas-fired plants, which are cleaner and cheaper to build and run.

Until there is a change in

Strategy needed to keep home fires burning on coal



No abdication of duty: Michael Clark, committee chairman

relative costs of fuel, or coal burning technology, is improved, home produced coal faces a declining market. After considering long-term prospects for coal, and implications for government policy, the committee, on both left and right, was left deeply concerned.

Britain has been an international leader in the development of "clean coal" technology. The Topping Cycle being developed by British Coal at Grimethorpe, in South Yorkshire, is expected to be 20 per cent more efficient than current coal-fired power stations.

Bilthorpe Power Station, a co-operative project between British Coal and East Midlands Electricity, would use elements of the Topping Cycle process to fuel a generating plant that would in turn cut costs by being located at the

pit head. Both projects have been held up by lack of funds. The committee concluded that "without government assistance (or international collaboration) no demonstration plants will be built." The department of energy had failed to provide adequate support for either project, the report said.

The committee did "not regard the department's actions as consistent with the importance it claims to attach to clean coal technology."

John Wakeham, the energy minister, launched a review of the government's clean coal strategy within weeks of the committee enquiry being announced. The committee seeks an appraisal of the extent to which industry could be expected to fund the projects, a new emphasis on demonstration plants, a sense of urgency and for "at least as much government support in the UK as is given by competitors' governments."

The report's strongest criticism, however, was reserved for the government's failure to develop a coherent energy strategy. The charge carries weight. Malcolm Edwards, British Coal's commercial director, has said that if he received a subsidy per unit of heat generated equivalent to that provided by government to the nuclear industry, he could give his coal away and still make a profit.

Electricity generators buy 82 per cent of British Coal's output. The committee heard that under contracts with the two main generators that expire in March 1993, British Coal receives just over £40 a tonne for its coal, while imports at the dockside cost about £32 a tonne. This year and next, British Coal will supply 65 million tonnes of coal.

The report concludes: "A 20 million tonne decline by the mid-1990s is likely, solely as a result of the generators' desire for a greater diversity of fuel sources." According to the British Association of Colliery Managers, by the year 2000, there might only be between 20 and 25 deep mines left. That would imply the loss of up to 24 pits, and more than 32,000 mining jobs.

The report says: "If a significant proportion of the UK's coal reserves were abandoned... resulting in a major reduction of long-term energy security, the government should understand that the country would see this not as a commercial decision, but as a largely irreversible decision of historic significance for the UK."

ROSS TIEMAN
Industrial Correspondent

Cider keeps Bulmer rosy

LAST year was not the year to have the British licence to distribute Perrier, the French mineral water whose sales, in the wake of the benzene scare, fell flatter than the contents of the average toilet mug.

So it says much about the new-found strength of HP Bulmer, the cider company based in Hereford with the Perrier franchise, that pre-tax profits rose by an impressive 20 per cent to £14.4 million despite a 6.6 per cent fall in sales to £211 million.

Bulmer's strategy is based on two strands. First, there has been a massive marketing investment to support its cider business, one of the biggest players in a market growing once again. Last year, the cider market grew by almost 10 per cent to 75 million gallons, admittedly helped by a hot summer.

Bulmer's second string has been its uncanny knack of picking or making winners of the international brands it distributes. Perrier was undoubtedly the success of the Eighties. Perrier's setback has, in part, been offset by increased sales of Buxton and Volvic, both owned by Perrier and both distributed by Bulmer. Orangina looks to be another winner for Bulmer. A 36 per cent increase in sales suggests that Orangina is set to do to the carbonated drinks market what Perrier did to the carbonated (oops, naturally carbonated) water market.

Distribution, almost by definition, is low-margin business. So the group's higher profits, at a time when total sales are falling, clearly owe much to cider. The brave decision, taken three years ago, to double the marketing spend on its Strongbow brand last year it spent £13.5 million—has paid off handsomely.

While a poor summer and the recession could take some of the froth off the current year, the Monopolies and

Mergers Commission report that released public house tenants from buying their brewer's cider has presented the company with a one-off opportunity.

The unspecified cost of installing and maintaining these canteen taps has contributed to increased net borrowings of £17.4 million, giving gearing of 25 per cent. Gearing will rise again this year as the investment continues. Assuming summer comes too late this year, pre-tax profits of about £15.5 million look on the cards. At 245p, the shares are on a price/earnings multiple of more than 14 and will be all the better if allowed to settle a little.

Microgen

MICROGEN Holdings, the computer services company, quoted the late Mies van der Rohe, the architect, on the front of its 1983 placing document, saying that "less is more".

So it is with Microgen's interim report to April 30, which suggests, after adjustment for discontinued operations, that turnover and profits are not as bad as they seem.

The actual 4.37 per cent fall from £4.53 million to £4.33 million in half-time pre-tax profit can thus be read as a fall of only 3 per cent, while turnover shown at £24.6 million, against £25.1 million, becomes a 13 per cent improvement on a like-for-like basis.

There is, however, no disguising the business message that the recession has made customers hesitant in Britain and throughout Scandinavia and that, therefore, this financial year is more likely to be one of consolidation than of profits growth.

New products and systems have yet to make a decided impact. Tough trading con-

ditions are compounded by Microgen's difficulties in selling vacated British business sites, which could mean a £251,000 exceptional charge for rates and rent in the second half – and £500,000 in a full year.

Meanwhile, increased efficiencies are being sought, while the order intake remains slow. The interim dividend is held at 2.2p a share and same-again annual pre-tax profits of £8.5 million would not surprise.

The shares at 152p, down 7p, trade on 11.3 times prospective earnings, backed by a 6.1 per cent yield, and are likely to be dull performers in the short term.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Love ignores the recession

MARRIAGE seems to be recession-proof. Selfridges, the London department store, has received so many wedding present lists that it has felt obliged to turn away couples oblivious to the prospects of love on the dole. Selfridges says that in July, August and September, the Wedding March becomes a quickstep. Although each of 14 consultants has up to 32 lists on the go at any one time, some would-be clients have been forced to seek solace up the road at John Lewis. Who says the retail trade is bearing the brunt of the downturn?

Gratitude pays off

NORTHERN Ireland may be on the fringe of Europe, but it is unstinting with a string of prizes for European Community economic aid. Hugh O'Neill, chairman of Northern Ireland Airports, explained why at the opening of a £7.5 million cargo centre in

Belfast yesterday. A top EC official told O'Neill some time ago that Northern Ireland would have a better chance of assistance if it displayed no-nonsense gratitude. O'Neill obliged "with great rapidity and obsequiousness" although it went against the grain. He asks: "These funds originate from our own taxpayers so why should we give thanks for

that which we have provided in the first place?" Brussels put up half the cost of the cargo centre.

TRAFALGAR was not the last fight Admiral Nelson was involved in. Sailors grabbed the flag of HMS Victory from on top of his coffin and tore it into pieces as mementoes. A nine-inch strip is to be sold by Bonhams, the Chelsea auctioneer, next Thursday.

"It grows upon trees."

Market plunge

THE view from the upper floors of the Stock Exchange tower is having a strange effect. Four people have developed an irresistible urge to jump from a great height. Press officers Jill Akers and Michele Taikie, from the 22nd floor, will be joined by Steve Webster, public information officer, from three floors below when they parachute out of an aircraft over Kent on July 28. Sarah Naylor, Webster's colleague, follows a week later. All are supporting cancer research. In the past, Akers

has been paragliding and has skied off a mountain attached to an aeroplane. Taikie did attempt the more modest feat of jumping from a first-floor window holding an umbrella at the age of 11.

Pru-dent silence

JOHN Smith, Labour's Treasury spokesman, was taking questions at one of his many City lunches. On the subject of a National Investment Bank, a representative of one of the big insurance companies asked: "Don't governments have a rather poor track record in selecting profitable areas for investment?" Smith pondered a moment then replied: "The private sector has made its share of dodgy decisions, too. D'you know, hard though this is to believe, I understand that a substantial British insurance concern went headlong into the property market not so long ago." The man from the Prudential did not come back for a second question.

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South Africa in talks on flights to US

THE resumption of direct flights between South Africa and America came a step closer when officials held informal talks on reopening the air traffic route closed for almost five years by American sanctions (Stephen Taylor writes from Cape Town).

The contacts were the first since last week's decision by the Bush administration to lift sanctions cleared the way for a new agreement between South Africa's Directorate of Civil Aviation and America's Federal Aviation Administration. Commercial air traffic between the two countries was barred from November 1986 by the Comprehensive Anti-Apartheid Act approved by Congress, which also prohibited imports of South African goods and US investment.

BCC closure starts run on HK banks

From LULU YU IN HONG KONG

THE collapse of the Bank of Credit and Commerce sent panicking depositors rushing to withdraw funds from two local banks yesterday.

Thousands queued to withdraw money from the International Bank of Asia and the Dao Heng Bank, which closed on Monday last week.

Sir Piers Jacobs, Hong Kong's financial secretary, said he would seek approval for funds to pay BCCHK depositors a relief sum of up to 25 per cent of their deposits. Throughout the day, protesting depositors blocked traffic in the central business district and clashed with police outside government offices. Disturbances are expected to continue, and more banks may be affected.

International Bank of Asia and Dao Heng remained open and said they had adequate funds for depositors. Officials said the two were financially sound and had nothing to do with BCC group.

Hong Kong has not had a run on banks since the aftermath of the Tiananmen Square massacre by Chinese troops in June 1989, when depositors squeezed the Bank of China for a few days.

Joseph Yam, acting secretary for monetary affairs, blamed "malicious rumours" on yesterday's run and said the government would lend to banks that needed liquidity. The government has injected HK\$60 million (£4.7 million) to ease liquidity in the inter-bank market, raising bank funds to HK\$540 million from HK\$480 million, against the exchange fund. The fund, operated by monetary affairs

officials, holds the colony's reserves and maintains the pegged rate of HK\$7.80 to US\$1.

Since 1983, the government has used the exchange fund to bail out seven local banks and has taken control of two of them, the Hang Lung Bank and the Overseas Trust Bank.

Mr Yam ruled out using the exchange fund to rescue problem banks, including BCCHK, saying that bank failures no longer had an unacceptable effect on the exchange value of the Hong Kong dollar.

BCCHK is a medium-sized bank in Hong Kong that specialises in trade financing and has deposits of HK\$11 billion. Mr Cheuk said at least HK\$2.5 billion of the bank's assets had been brought back to the colony.

At the end of last year, BCCHK had a share capital of HK\$749 million, HK\$480 million of which represented funds from shareholders.



Counting the cost: this depositor could lose £50,000

FT-SE 100 VOLUMES

Vol 100	Vol 100	Vol 100	Vol 100
Abbey Nat 2,180	Castro 375	Lloyds 2,083	Royal Bank 4,889
Adams 1,182	ICI 1,087	Lucas 5,146	Royal Ind 2,081
Anglia 1,214	Centrust 618	M&S 5,146	S&N 3,189
ASDA 1,214	Enterprise 784	Macmillan 6,067	S&P 1,285
ASDA 1,214	Enterprise 784	Macmillan 6,067	S&P 1,285
ASDA 1,214	Enterprise 784	Macmillan 6,067	S&P 1,285
ASDA 1,214	Enterprise 784	Macmillan 6,067	S&P 1,285
ASDA 1,214	Enterprise 784	Macmillan 6,067	S&P 1,285
ASDA 1,214	Enterprise 784	Macmillan 6,067	S&P 1,285
ASDA 1,214	Enterprise 784	Macmillan 6,067	S&P 1,285
ASDA 1,214	Enterprise 784	Macmillan 6,067	S&P 1,285

RECENT ISSUES

EQUITIES	RECENT ISSUES
Abbey Nat (100p)	118
Abbey Nat (500p)	104 +1
Abbey Nat (100p)	118
Abbey Nat (500p)	104 +1
Abbey Nat (100p)	118
Abbey Nat (500p)	104 +1
Abbey Nat (100p)	118
Abbey Nat (500p)	104 +1
Abbey Nat (100p)	118
Abbey Nat (500p)	104 +1

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Dealings	For Settlement
July 18	July 18	October 18	October 21
Call options were issued on 47/781	Call options were issued on 47/781	Call options were issued on 47/781	Call options were issued on 47/781
Gold, Haverd Group, Westland Group, Dole	Gold, Haverd Group, Westland Group, Dole	Gold, Haverd Group, Westland Group, Dole	Gold, Haverd Group, Westland Group, Dole

To Place Your Advertisement

071-481 4481

LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

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Discover an environment where quality is always a priority

Partner's Secretary

As a professional secretary, you no doubt set the highest standards in your work. Which is precisely why we're so well suited to each other. We are Jones Lang Wootton, one of the world's leading property consultancies and we value quality in our work, in our people, and in the environment we offer to our staff.

In this instance you will be based in a team with one of our Partners and two Surveyors. Working closely with the Partner, you'll organise his schedule, meetings and correspondence, and provide secretarial support to your other two colleagues. You must enjoy the excitement of a dynamic and pressurised business environment.

West End

Your excellent skills should include typing speeds of around 70wpm, sound administrative ability and, ideally, shorthand.

We'll reward your professionalism and potential with an excellent salary and a generous range of large-company benefits including 23 days' annual holiday, a generous travel allowance and a discretionary bonus.

To apply please send your CV, including salary expectations, to Victoria Masterman at Jones Lang Wootton, 22 Hanover Square, London W1A 2BN.

No agencies.

Jones Lang Wootton

SPANISH PA

£20,000 +

Bank benefits

Director's PA sought with fluent Spanish (no Spanish speaking) for City based. Previous Board level experience essential plus three years' experience in a senior position. Age 30-40 yrs preferred. Excellent salary and benefits. Full range of bank benefits. Call PATRICIA on 071 606 9411 for an early interview. C & S MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS

SECRETARY TO

MARKETING MANAGER

Major Oil Company in Central London seeks an executive secretary with a sound office background. Good shorthand, experience on the DMS Word Processor and strong administrative skills are essential. This post will also involve client liaison. Salary is negotiable £18,000 + benefits. For further details telephone 071-537 5311.

CENTRUM

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

BILINGUAL SECRETARIES

Our client is currently

recruiting for two mature

high calibre Secretaries with

either fluent German or

Italian.

Excellent secretarial skills

are essential, as is recent

experience. Salary £13,500

Call Jane on (081) 946 7654

HEADWAY PERSONNEL

(RECRUITS)

MEDIA INVESTMENT COMPANY

Finance Director of leading media

investment company is looking

for a dynamic Personal Assistant

with excellent shorthand and

typing skills. Candidates must be

flexible and prepared to work under

pressure. Long term position with

an excellent salary and benefits.

Please apply in first instance to

Box No. 420

DESIGN CONSULTANCY

PA TO MD c. £14,000

25-35 years, 90-95% able,

preferably experience in

Marketing and public relations,

good communications skills.

Send CV to

Campbell Hogg Associates

12 Apollo Studios

Chertsey Kings Road

London NW5 2SS

FULHAM - MARKETING GRP

Man for Social Media

PA TO DIRECTORS

Bloomsbury WC1

£17,500

A very progressive consultancy is expanding its operations to

include a new office in London. Strong links are well estab-

lished throughout the UK and Europe.

The right person, a team builder, will have a sound know-

ledge of Word Perfect 5.1, strong administrative capability and

a working knowledge of book-keeping.

This is a positive career opportunity for an experienced

senior secretary who enjoys hard work and involvement - a

good sense of humour is important.

Please telephone Chris Bennett on 021 622 1133 for

an early interview in London.

FINE WINES-W1

£13,000

Finance Director of a leading wine merchant is seeking a

senior secretary with excellent shorthand and typing skills

and a good knowledge of wine. Salary is negotiable £13,000 +

benefits. For further details telephone 071-537 5311.

Call Jane on (081) 946 7654

HEADWAY PERSONNEL

(RECRUITS)

SHORTHAND BILINGUAL PA

To £20,000 + Benefits. Central London

Fluent French and Senior Director level experience, you

possess excellent administrative and organisational ability

accompanied by full secretarial skills. You work well under

pressure, are willing to assist colleagues and have the

commitment to ensure success in this high profile position.

SQUIRES APPOINTMENTS

071 831 1432

SENIOR PARTNER'S SECRETARY

A busy City Senior Partner dealing with Company Law requires an

experienced senior secretary who will have very good w.p. and

audio skills, as well as normal secretarial abilities. No

administration is involved.

Please write full cv. and stating salary required to:

Mrs. Wendy Johnson, Roberts & Richards,

Royal London House, 22/23 Finsbury Square, London EC2A 1XX

No Agencies

DEALING ASSISTANT

(Prof. with Fluent French)

£13,500 + Mfg. Bonus, Etc.

Our client, a top international bank is looking to recruit a bright, reliable

assistant to work on their dealing floor. You will need good

communication skills and preferably experience in the financial sector. This is

a superb opportunity for development in a very busy team environment.

Call Emily Hall on 071 255 1555.

MERIDIAN (Rec Cons)

CONTEMPORARY WEST END ART GALLERY

Requires well spoken, well presented, enthusiastic

gallery receptionist. Secretarial skills essential and

languages helpful. Please send CV to Polly at

1st Floor, 20 Dering Street, London W1R 9AA

for interview at the beginning of September.

PA TO MD

Sal £20,000 Neg + MS + Bens

FLUENT SPANISH

Int'l City Bank seeks a top PA for MD. This position

requires excellent shorthand and typing skills, a City

background and be confident, well presented and

efficient. A sense of humour is essential. Skills 90/60.

Please call Sue Mason

A.A. Rec Cons

071-480 5514 Fax 2302

EXECUTIVE P.A.

TO £20,000 ESSEX

Our clients, respected and successful Pharmaceutical

manufacturers, currently seek a "P.A. Proper" to

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must be a warm, vivacious Graduate aged between

28 and 35, capable of displaying "Boardroom Level"

sense of dress and the ability to comfortably deal

with clients, colleagues and associates at all levels.

You should be exceptionally experienced in handling

good shorthand, confidentiality, bags of discretion

and a dash of charm! The job can best be described

as a key secretarial role offering substantial job fulfil-

ment to the dedicated and career orientated PA.

Contact Michelle Ellis on 071 242 7654 until 10pm

Legal People Rec Cons

DESPERATELY SEEKING SECRETARY

I am a partner in a firm of solicitors and specialists in town and

country planning/commercial litigation. I need a

secretary who is a firm of solicitors and specialists in town and

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Estates Gazette Library and Information Assistant

The UK's leading property weekly is seeking a

bright, enthusiastic person to assist the Library

and Information Manager. Duties include press

cuttings, periodicals and clerical work as well

as answering internal and external enquiries.

Keyboard skills essential. Previous employ-

ment in a commercial environment is desirable

but A-level leavers, particularly those wishing

to gain pre-professional library qualification

experience, will be considered. Above all, the

successful applicant must show both initiative

and the ability to maintain a meticulous ap-

proach under pressure. Non-smoking office.

Handwritten applications plus CVs, including a

daytime telephone number, to Brenda

Goody, Library & Information

MONEY RATES (%)

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From your Portfolio Platinum card check your share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your daily dividend figure. If it matches the prize money entered, you have won. Follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Cash	Div
1	Anglo	Motors/Aircraft	1.00	1.00
2	GN	Industries E-K	1.00	1.00
3	Life Sciences	Pharmaceuticals	1.00	1.00
4	NFC	Transport	1.00	1.00
5	Johnson Matthey	Industries E-K	1.00	1.00
6	Humbros	Chemicals/Plastics	1.00	1.00
7	Pharm	Pharmaceuticals	1.00	1.00
8	Optical Ltd	Industries E-K	1.00	1.00
9	Sun & New	Services	1.00	1.00
10	Yorkshire Water	Water	1.00	1.00
11	Kirk Saver	Food	1.00	1.00
12	Cookson	Industries A-D	1.00	1.00
13	TI	Industries E-K	1.00	1.00
14	Land Sec	Property	1.00	1.00
15	De La Rue	Industries A-D	1.00	1.00
16	Lloyds	Banking/Discount	1.00	1.00
17	Bristol	Newspapers/Pub	1.00	1.00
18	Simon Bag	Industries E-K	1.00	1.00
19	Read Int	Newspapers/Pub	1.00	1.00
20	Scott Chem	Chemicals/Plastics	1.00	1.00
21	Balmain (P)	Services	1.00	1.00
22	RMC Op	Building/Roads	1.00	1.00
23	Waco	Paper/Print/Adv	1.00	1.00
24	Dalgety	Food	1.00	1.00
25	Difesa	Industries A-D	1.00	1.00
26	Anglian Water	Water	1.00	1.00
27	North Wes	Water	1.00	1.00
28	Boat (Henry)	Building/Roads	1.00	1.00
29	Slate	Industries E-K	1.00	1.00
30	Barclays	Banking/Discount	1.00	1.00
31	Sidon Water	Water	1.00	1.00
32	Beal	Services	1.00	1.00
33	Wellcome	Industries E-K	1.00	1.00
34	Costa	Building/Roads	1.00	1.00
35	Vaux Group	Services	1.00	1.00
36	Leid	Industries E-K	1.00	1.00
37	MB-Quaden	Industries E-K	1.00	1.00
38	Fort	Hotels/Caterers	1.00	1.00
39	Barbour Index	Newspapers/Pub	1.00	1.00
40	Harrison Oswald	Industries E-K	1.00	1.00
41	Calder Op	Chemicals/Plastics	1.00	1.00
42	Geog	Transport	1.00	1.00
43	New Corp	Newspapers/Pub	1.00	1.00
44	Times Newspapers Ltd	Daily Total	1.00	1.00

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend						
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £4,000 in Saturday's newspaper.						
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	TOTAL

There were no valid claims for the Portfolio Platinum prize yesterday. The £2,000 will be added to today's competition.

BRITISH FUNDS

Short	High	Low	Open	Close	Change	%
1	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
2	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
3	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
4	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
5	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
6	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
7	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
8	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
9	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
10	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
11	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
12	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
13	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
14	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
15	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
16	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
17	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
18	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
19	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
20	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
21	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
22	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
23	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
24	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
25	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
26	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
27	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
28	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
29	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
30	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
31	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
32	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
33	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
34	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
35	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
36	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
37	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
38	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
39	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
40	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
41	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
42	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
43	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
44	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00

Short	High	Low	Open	Close	Change	%
1	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
2	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
3	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
4	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
5	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
6	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
7	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
8	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
9	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
10	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
11	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
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17	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
18	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
19	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
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21	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
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23	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
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27	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
28	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
29	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
30	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
31	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
32	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
33	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
34	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
35	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
36	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
37	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
38	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
39	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
40	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
41	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
42	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
43	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
44	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00

Short	High	Low	Open	Close	Change	%
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35	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
36	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
37	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
38	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
39	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
40	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
41	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
42	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
43	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00
44	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	-0.01	-1.00

UNDATED						
25%	23%	Consols	22%	24%	..	..
25%	23%	Treas	22%	24%	..	..
25%	23%	Treas	22%	24%	..	..
50%	57%	Cow	31%	58%	..	..
40%	35%	Consols	4%	39%	..	..
35%	33%	War Ld	31%	35	..	2.5

CRICKET

Hundred by Hick may win him an England reprieve

By ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

PORTSMOUTH (second day of three): Worcestershire with five second-innings wickets in hand are 16 runs ahead of Hampshire

THE prospect of a Graeme Hick century brought a big crowd to Portsmouth yesterday, and he duly made it. His second hundred of a lean season came, however, in his second innings of the day and at a time when this match was looking as much a loss cause as Hick's England place.

Micky Stewart, the England manager, was not here, so he missed the good news about Robin Smith's finger — not broken and improved enough for him to field as substitute — as well as the evidence which may persuade a selectorial reprieve for Hick.

In the circumstances, this was a considerable innings. Worcestershire, having bowled languidly on Tuesday, hatted just as badly. They followed on 255 runs behind and were quickly eight for two, with a demoralising two-day defeat in view. The pitch was playing unevenly, Hampshire were bubbling; it was a propitious moment to make a century for your Test life.

Hick seized the moment and turned adversity to

advantage. His hundred came from only 113 balls and contained 17 fours, mostly struck with dismissive authority. He looked the Hick of old, instincts positive, bat and feet in rhythmical union.

His first attempt of the day had not been so stirring. He managed only 15 before aiming to drive Connor without much foot movement and dragging the ball into his stumps. Moody was then caught at second slip and Neale, having received five runs for a dropped catch when Terry palmed the ball on to the unused fielder's helmet, was caught at first.

Enter Botham. It was 102 for five and perhaps the time for restraint and retrenchment. He settled for two overs of mayhem, bringing him five fours and a six off Ayling, before a brute of a ball from Shine cut the entertainment short.

Scarcely a day passes now without Botham's future being debated. Yesterday's official announcements were confined to his plans for another pantomime season, this time in Bournemouth. Unofficially, and longer-term, his move to Durham, salary sponsored by a brewery, was close to agreement all round.

Worcestershire lost their last five wickets for 26 runs in seven overs. Shine, a tall and aggressive pace bowler from Berkshire, took four for 13 in this spell for innings figures of five for 43. Until yesterday, he had taken only seven wickets all season. He is a bowler of genuine speed, as he was to emphasise when Worcestershire were in against Hampshire in the third over, whereupon Shine removed Curtis, for the second time in half-an-hour, and completed an inspired over by beating Moody three times. The Australian's aggregate of 79 from his last five innings is fewer than his average when the sequence began.

There now seemed a risk of Hick running out of partners. Neale had scored only one half-century this season, and his place and his job are at risk.

But his determination was graphic and the stand of 143, ended by Shine's return, cast just a doubt on Hampshire's ability to finish the job.

Shine eased such fears with his eighth and most satisfying wicket of the day, Hick, falling for 141 to Hampshire's ninth slip catch. They deserve to win and only Botham or the weather can stop them.

Lancashire look to the heavens

By JACK BAILEY

TRENT BRIDGE (second day of three): Lancashire, with nine second-innings wickets in hand, need 151 runs to avoid an innings defeat by Nottinghamshire

ONLY if a dismal weather forecast is realised will Lancashire stand more than the slimmest of chances of saving this match.

They followed on 233 runs behind, having lost their last seven first-innings wickets for 41 runs. Hemmings and Aford, the Nottinghamshire spinners, shared seven wickets. Tired spinning fingers were partially responsible for Lancashire's second innings resurgence, as well as Fowler and Mendis played. And on a pitch which has progressively helped the bowlers, Nottinghamshire, if uninterrupted today, can expect a second successive championship win.

Before half past three, Lancashire had made a fair fist of saving some of the writing on the wall which had been there since Hemmings and Aford had joined forces and the ball had begun to nip and turn. In spite of Mendis falling for the sucker punch, after 35 had been added to the overnight score, lofting

Stephenson to the finer of two long legs — Robinson had only just dropped himself out there — and Speak and Fowler departing after only seven more had been scored, Fairbrother and Titchard survived well into the afternoon.

By then, the Lancashire score of 152 for three looked reasonable. You only needed to have seen Fowler's demise to a shorter from Stephenson which lifted and left him, or watched the times Fairbrother was tied up by Hemmings, to realise that Lancashire's chances of saving the follow-on, were minimal. For a long time, the fourth wicket pair defied the odds.

Titchard was playing in only his second championship match of the season, and he reached to scotch the spin. Fairbrother pounced on anything remotely loose and chanced his arm often enough to give Hemmings palpitations. Between them they added 97 in 34 hair-raising overs. Once Fairbrother left, leaving once too often, at Hemmings, the door was wide open.

It is something of a mystery how Lancashire think they can afford to be without John Crawley, who is apparently ready, willing and able.

OF THE eight centuries scored in yesterday's championship matches by far the most entertaining was that made by Mike Gatting, who gave the Northamptonshire bowlers a rare hammering at Uxbridge (Geoffrey Wheeler writes).

Gatting, who has a heavy cold, delayed his entry until the fall of the fourth Middlesex wicket, and then set about raising everyone's temperature. He was the leg spinner, Roberts, for three fours and a six, in the last over before tea, and dashed to his hundred from 89 balls in only 91 minutes before declaring at 303 for five, 45 in arrears.

The highest score of the day was 159 made by Alan Wells for Essex, who built up a lead of 122 over Somerset at Hove. Wells's fifth hundred of the season was preceded by Lenham's second, the pair adding 162 in 48 overs.

Stephenson and Prichard both got centuries for Essex against Kent at Southend, but at Scarborough the Yorkshire bowlers were in control. Derbyshire, 242 for nine, still need 28 to avoid the follow-on.

West Indian example is lost on Morris

By RICHARD STREETON

SWANSEA (second day of three): Glamorgan, with nine second-innings wickets in hand, are 157 runs behind the West Indians

RUNS flowed freely yesterday as the West Indians punished the Glamorgan attack with mounting severity. Richardson scored his third century this season, Lambert made 99 and Hooper, 80, before the touring team declared at 416 for seven. Glamorgan were left seven overs to bat and the hapless Morris made his second night of the game. Ambrose was again the bowler. This time Morris faced six balls before he followed one that was leaving him and was caught behind.

Earlier, the Glamorgan bowlers' cause was made to look hopeless on a dodgy pitch as the day progressed. Watkins, early on, brought one back to bowl Haynes and Croft's figures failed to show how well the young off-spinner often bowled. Otherwise, Glamorgan's only consolation was the cheap dismissals of Lara and Logie, both of whom could have done

with an innings. Lara's Test chances were not improved when he was brilliantly caught low and left-handed by Maynard at second slip. Logie chopped a ball into his stumps. Richardson and Hooper have been the heaviest scorers on this tour and their authoritative innings included some brilliant strokes. Richardson took his aggregate to 873 (average 72.75) and remains slightly behind Hooper, who has 901 runs (average 81.90).

Lambert looked less convincing. With only one more match, against Kent, before the fourth Test match, the West Indians seem no closer to solving the problem of who should open with Haynes. Clearly nervous on 99, he struggled against three successive balls from Barwick and was leg-before to the next. He batted just over three hours and hit 14 fours.

Richardson abdicated after an innings of similar duration when he moved out against Croft and was stumped to give the bowler a thoroughly deserved success. He had struck a six and 16 fours.

England tour plans agreed

WELLINGTON (AFP) — New Zealand and England have finally agreed an itinerary for England's tour next year, which will include three Test matches and three one-day internationals. In all, England will play 11 matches after arriving in New Zealand on December 29.

ITINERARY: Jan 22 Auckland (Australia); Jan 24-25 New Zealand; Jan 26-27 New Zealand; Jan 28-29 New Zealand; Jan 30-Feb 2 second Test (New Zealand); Feb 3-4 first Test (New Zealand); Feb 12 second one-day international (Australia); Feb 15-16 second one-day international (Australia).

Paul Davison, the former England and Middlesex wicket-keeper, has joined the team of observers working for the England committee this summer.

Britannia Assurance county championship

Hampshire v Worcs

PORTSMOUTH (second day of three): Worcestershire with five second-innings wickets in hand, are 16 runs ahead of Hampshire

Worcestershire First Innings
T S Curtis c Mervin b Shine 53
G J Lord c Ayling b Aftab 2
P J Hughes c Mervin b Aftab 12
G A Hogg c Mervin b Aftab 10
T J Botham c Mervin b Shine 28
T J Rhodes c Mervin b Shine 16
P J Hughes c Mervin b Aftab 12
P J Hughes c Mervin b Aftab 12
G J Lord c Mervin b Aftab 12
Extras (b 5, lb 1, nb 1) 14
Total (48.5 overs) 164

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-18, 2-37, 3-47, 4-74, 5-102, 6-138, 7-138, 8-144, 9-164.
BOWLING: Aftab 12-3-55, 1-1-0; Ayling 10-4-40, 1-1-0; Shine 11-3-45, 1-1-0; Mervin 11-4-40, 1-1-0; Aftab 11-4-40, 1-1-0.

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T S Curtis c Mervin b Shine 53
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P J Hughes c Mervin b Aftab 12
G A Hogg c Mervin b Aftab 10
T J Botham c Mervin b Shine 28
T J Rhodes c Mervin b Shine 16
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Essex v Kent
SOUTHEND (second day of three): Kent, with 177 runs behind Essex, are 157 runs behind Essex

Essex First Innings
T S Curtis c Mervin b Shine 53
G J Lord c Ayling b Aftab 2
P J Hughes c Mervin b Aftab 12
G A Hogg c Mervin b Aftab 10
T J Botham c Mervin b Shine 28
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Yorks v Derbyshire
SCARBOROUGH (second day of three): Yorkshire, with 177 runs behind Derbyshire, are 157 runs behind Derbyshire

Yorkshire First Innings
T S Curtis c Mervin b Shine 53
G J Lord c Ayling b Aftab 2
P J Hughes c Mervin b Aftab 12
G A Hogg c Mervin b Aftab 10
T J Botham c Mervin b Shine 28
T J Rhodes c Mervin b Shine 16
P J Hughes c Mervin b Aftab 12
P J Hughes c Mervin b Aftab 12
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Surrey v Gloucestershire

GUILDFORD (second day of three):

Gloucestershire First Innings
T S Curtis c Mervin b Shine 53
G J Lord c Ayling b Aftab 2
P J Hughes c Mervin b Aftab 12
G A Hogg c Mervin b Aftab 10
T J Botham c Mervin b Shine 28
T J Rhodes c Mervin b Shine 16
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Surrey First Innings
T S Curtis c Mervin b Shine 53
G J Lord c Ayling b Aftab 2
P J Hughes c Mervin b Aftab 12
G A Hogg c Mervin b Aftab 10
T J Botham c Mervin b Shine 28
T J Rhodes c Mervin b Shine 16
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Notts v Lancs
TRENT BRIDGE (second day of three): Nottinghamshire, with 177 runs behind Lancashire, are 157 runs behind Lancashire

Nottinghamshire First Innings
T S Curtis c Mervin b Shine 53
G J Lord c Ayling b Aftab 2
P J Hughes c Mervin b Aftab 12
G A Hogg c Mervin b Aftab 10
T J Botham c Mervin b Shine 28
T J Rhodes c Mervin b Shine 16
P J Hughes c Mervin b Aftab 12
P J Hughes c Mervin b Aftab 12
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Portsmouth v Hampshire
PORTSMOUTH (second day of three): Hampshire, with 177 runs behind Portsmouth, are 157 runs behind Portsmouth

Hampshire First Innings
T S Curtis c Mervin b Shine 53
G J Lord c Ayling b Aftab 2
P J Hughes c Mervin b Aftab 12
G A Hogg c Mervin b Aftab 10
T J Botham c Mervin b Shine 28
T J Rhodes c Mervin b Shine 16
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Gloucestershire v Worcestershire
GUILDFORD (second day of three): Gloucestershire, with 177 runs behind Worcestershire, are 157 runs behind Worcestershire

Gloucestershire First Innings
T S Curtis c Mervin b Shine 53
G J Lord c Ayling b Aftab 2
P J Hughes c Mervin b Aftab 12
G A Hogg c Mervin b Aftab 10
T J Botham c Mervin b Shine 28
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Sussex v Somerset
HOVE (second day of three): Somerset, with 177 runs behind Sussex, are 157 runs behind Sussex

Sussex First Innings
T S Curtis c Mervin b Shine 53
G J Lord c Ayling b Aftab 2
P J Hughes c Mervin b Aftab 12
G A Hogg c Mervin b Aftab 10
T J Botham c Mervin b Shine 28
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Gloucestershire v Worcestershire
GUILDFORD (second day of three): Gloucestershire, with 177 runs behind Worcestershire, are 157 runs behind Worcestershire

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Gloucestershire v Worcestershire
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G A Hogg c Mervin b Aftab 10
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Gloucestershire v Worcestershire
GUILDFORD (second day of three): Gloucestershire, with 177 runs behind Worcestershire, are 157 runs behind Worcestershire

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Jammaayil to relish this drop in class

Levy deficit may mean further cuts

By MICHAEL SEELY, RACING CORRESPONDENT

PAT Eddery, who is on the verge of becoming only the fifth jockey to ride 3,000 winners in Great Britain, can inch closer to that goal by winning the Mares Stakes at Sandown Park today on Jammaayil.

Already a winner over today's distance at Newcastle, Jammaayil was not disgraced in a listed race at Newmarket last Thursday when beaten less than five lengths into third place by Dr Devious and Young Senor.

As Dr Devious is the only horse to have beaten the subsequent Coventry Stakes winner Dilmu, and Young Senor had won well at York in May before unluckily forfeiting his chance when dwelling in the starting stalls before the Chesham Stakes, Jammaayil was clearly taking on two good colts at Newmarket.

Flourishing's win at Wolverhampton looked nothing out of the ordinary so I regard Good Reference as the danger. She ran with considerable promise on her debut over today's course and distance when third to Saratoga Stakes.

Those who admired the way that Artic Tracker set about his business when he made that stunning debut at Newmarket last month will be looking for Beyton, who finished fourth, to frank the form by winning the EBF Raynes Park Maiden Stakes.

In this instance, though, the key may be held by Artic Tracker's trainer, Charlie Nelson, who has deemed it worthwhile taking on Beyton with Stinger, runner-up to Tik Fak over today's course and distance first time out.

Having recorded a treble at Warwick during the past four weeks, Richard Fox and Pettise now switch their attention to the Fox Warren Handicap. However, I prefer the Richard Hannon-trained Tango Time, who impressed when scoring snugly at Bath eight days ago, having won equally well at Lingfield the time before.

As the handicapper has

been able to assess Moving Out and Coleridge strictly according to their run behind Million Miles at Haydock for the Norman Hill Handicap, I am happy to side instead with Gondolier.

By the time that Gondolier goes to post, his chance of winning again should have been boosted by Shooting Lodge, who is named to win the 'A' One Apprentice Claiming Stakes at Catterick. In between being beaten a neck at Wolverhampton and Ayr, Shooting Lodge was also runner-up to Gondolier at Redcar.

Al Shaqrah, who has been beaten a neck by Shah Diamond each time they have met at Salisbury, can complete a double for Shooting Lodge's trainer, Alec Stewart, by winning the Grove Maiden Stakes.

Naswara (6.30) and Shahi (8.00) provide Henry Cecil with a short-price double at Chesham's evening meeting where Coleridge is just preferred to Himiko in the University and Literary Club Fillies Stakes.

MANDARIN	THUNDERER	MICHAEL SEELY
2.15 Stinger	2.15 Beyton	4.25 GONDOLIER (nap).
2.45 TANGO TIME	2.45 VERY DICKEY (nap).	5.00 Wings Of Freedom.
3.20 Jammaayil.	3.20 Jammaayil.	
3.55 Sir Bedivere.	3.55 Diklo.	
4.25 Gondolier.	4.25 Gondolier.	
5.00 Western Loch.	5.00 Rapoport.	

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM (ROUND COURSE); GOOD (STRAIGHT)
DRAW: 5F 5YD, HIGH NUMBERS BEST

2.15 EBF RAYNES PARK MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-O; £3,088; 7f 16yd) (13 runners)				
101 (11)	4 AY BEAT 17 (Austin Street & Co Ltd) E Wheatley 9-0	W Naswara	94	
102 (11)	4 BEYTON 19 (D Cook) R Hannan 8-0	W Carson	90	
103 (11)	4 ARTIC TRACKER 19 (D Cook) R Hannan 8-0	R Hannan	90	
104 (11)	4 CASANOVA 9 (Kinnell Valley Thoroughbred Ltd) R Armstrong 9-0	Pax Eddery	90	
105 (13)	0 DDOVEY KING 12 (T Welford) C Popham 9-0	R Sturt	90	
106 (11)	4 EREMO (D Turner) C Bennett 8-0	R Sturt	90	
107 (11)	4 GALLANT JACK 14 (Jack Brown Ltd) D Hagen Jones 9-0	R Sturt	90	
108 (11)	4 MASTER HYDE 16 (Hyde Promotions/Rodriguez Farm) P Mitchell 9-0	A Murro	74	
109 (10)	4 MOUJINS (A Sturt) D Ebbw 9-0	S Causton	90	
110 (12)	4 RULLY (A Sturt) C Brittain 8-0	G Craddock	90	
111 (12)	4 STINGER 12 (B) (A) C Hagen 9-0	J Field	90	
112 (11)	4 SURE LODGE (Surrey Stud Ltd) W Mair 9-0	S Whitworth	90	
113 (12)	2 TOP ROYAL (A Sturt) J Duntap 9-0	T Quinn	90	

BETTING: 9-4 Stinger, 3-1 Beyton, 5-1 Top Noval, 8-1 Captain Hannan, 10-1 Casanova, Gullat Jack, 14-1 Y Beat, 15-1 Master Hyde, 16-1 Sure Lodge, 20-1 Stinger, 25-1 Top Noval, 30-1 Y Beat, 40-1 Master Hyde, 50-1 Sure Lodge, 60-1 Stinger, 70-1 Top Noval, 80-1 Y Beat, 90-1 Master Hyde, 100-1 Sure Lodge, 120-1 Stinger, 140-1 Top Noval, 160-1 Y Beat, 180-1 Master Hyde, 200-1 Sure Lodge, 250-1 Stinger, 300-1 Top Noval, 400-1 Y Beat, 500-1 Master Hyde, 600-1 Sure Lodge, 700-1 Stinger, 800-1 Top Noval, 900-1 Y Beat, 1000-1 Master Hyde, 1200-1 Sure Lodge, 1400-1 Stinger, 1600-1 Top Noval, 1800-1 Y Beat, 2000-1 Master Hyde, 2500-1 Sure Lodge, 3000-1 Stinger, 4000-1 Top Noval, 5000-1 Y Beat, 6000-1 Master Hyde, 7000-1 Sure Lodge, 8000-1 Stinger, 9000-1 Top Noval, 10000-1 Y Beat, 12000-1 Master Hyde, 14000-1 Sure Lodge, 16000-1 Stinger, 18000-1 Top Noval, 20000-1 Y Beat, 25000-1 Master Hyde, 30000-1 Sure Lodge, 40000-1 Stinger, 50000-1 Top Noval, 60000-1 Y Beat, 70000-1 Master Hyde, 80000-1 Sure 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The Times on the 120th Open Championship which starts today at Royal Birkdale

Severiano Ballesteros's hole-by-hole guide



Spanish smile: Ballesteros clasps the trophy following his Open win at Royal Lytham and St Annes in 1979

By MITCHELL PLATTS
GOLF CORRESPONDENT

SEVERIANO Ballesteros announced himself as a world force in golf when he finished joint second with Jack Nicklaus behind Johnny Miller at Royal Birkdale in 1976.

Ballesteros's fearless driving and flashing smile enthralled the Open gallery; the followers had not been so captivated since Arnold Palmer won the Open in 1961, coincidentally on the same Lancashire links.

Ballesteros led or shared the lead from the first round. He was still two shots to the good when the final round began. Then, however, the gods favoured Miller. Or did they?

Ballesteros said: "I think it was great for me to finish second, not to win. Johnny Miller said that to me when it was all over and at the time I did not understand what he meant. But now, looking back, I think he was 100 per cent right. You see, I would not have been prepared to handle all the pressure that goes with winning the Open. I honestly think that 1979 was better for me. More my time."

In 1979, Ballesteros won at Royal Lytham and St Annes; he won his second Open at St Andrews in 1984 and his third at Royal Lytham again in 1988. The omnipresent wind, which, according to the locals, can whip in off the Irish Sea with lumps in it, offers additional protection to both the Lancashire championship links, although Ballesteros appears to thrive on them. He now needs to conquer Royal Birkdale.

"I would say that the first six holes at Royal Birkdale provide one of the toughest starts in championship golf in the world," Ballesteros said. "I mean, if you pass the first six without any trouble, I think you are quite safe. Not totally safe. But quite safe."

"This is one of my favourite golf courses and I must say, too, that it is the fairest of the courses we play for the Open. It is not like Royal St George's, where, if you hit a good shot, you always have to wait until you get to the ball to see where it is and how it lies. I think at Royal Birkdale you know from the moment you hit the ball what your reward is."

"I obviously have great memories of Royal Birkdale from 1976 because it was really the beginning of my career. It was interesting because after the first round everyone thought it was my brother, Manuel, who was in the lead. They didn't know me. I could walk through Southport without anyone knowing me."

Ballesteros has proved himself a Master of the majors, winning twice at Augusta, in addition to his three Opens, and there is still not a player in the game capable of manufacturing such a variety of shots. He is well prepared for the challenge ahead.

Here, exclusively for *The Times*, is the Ballesteros guide to Royal Birkdale:

HOLE 1 (450 yards, par 4)
A dog-leg to the left. It is a very difficult tee shot, obviously made more difficult because it is the first hole. Usually, the wind is from left to right. It can require a driver if it

is slightly against or a one-iron. There is a bunker to the left and a sand hill. The second shot will be almost 200 yards, so you are tested right away.

HOLE 2 (423 yards, par 4)
This is difficult, too, because it is narrow. A driver and a seven-iron, it also has a narrow green, although it is more than 30 yards in depth. Normally played into the wind.

HOLE 3 (410 yards, par 4)
I think an iron is best from the tee. Quite often the wind is helping, although obviously you have to keep the ball in play. The second shot is almost blind. I would say it is usually an eight-iron. A hole where, if you put the ball in play and hit quite a good second shot, then you can pick up a shot... if you hole the putt!

HOLE 4 (266 yards, par 3)
A tough par three, long and well protected with bunkers. Usually the wind is across, which makes it even more difficult. It can be a three- or four-iron. There is a new green but I still think it is best, if you are going to miss the green, to miss on the left, even though there are three bunkers. You don't want to be short and I don't like the trouble to the right.

HOLE 5 (343 yards, par 4)
A very short par four, so it is an iron from the tee and a short iron to the green. The hole dog-legs to the right but I don't think it is worth taking the driver to try to cut the corner. It is a very small green and you must be careful not to be missing left, because the green slopes towards the right a little bit. If you do miss the green,

then it can be difficult to get close to the pin.

HOLE 6 (473 yards, par 4)
Probably the toughest hole on the course. It depends where the wind blows, but usually it is a driver, or maybe three-wood, from the tee; or it could be a one-iron. You must judge it to perfection, as it is important to get the tee shot as close as possible to the fairway bunker on the right because the next shot, a blind one, is extremely difficult. It is a one-iron or a very long two-iron. There are bushes on the right, a bunker short on the left. The green is elevated and small.

HOLE 7 (150 yards, par 3)
A little par three which should be an eight- or nine-iron, depending on the wind, from the new tee looking down at a green surrounded by bunkers. A hole where you may pick up a shot. There should be no trouble, unless there is a strong wind against or across. The first real birdie chance.

HOLE 8 (470 yards, par 4)
A dog-leg to the left. A tough tee shot because the fairway is protected with a row of bunkers on the right and another on the left. The tee is high and the wind is usually across, so it is difficult to keep the ball on the fairway. The green is light, deep and well protected with bunkers on both sides. It should be a good driver and a good four-iron. I don't think it is a good idea to try to cut the corner; there is too much trouble if you fail.

HOLE 9 (410 yards, par 4)
A blind tee shot, this will probably

require a one-iron. It is difficult to put the ball in play here and you have to be aware of a steep-faced bunker on the right side. Then the second shot, probably a seven-iron, is very fair. The green is flat, fair and a little elevated. Neither an easy nor a difficult hole.

HOLE 10 (384 yards, par 4)
A sharp dog-leg to the left. An iron again from the tee but it is a difficult tee shot because there are two bunkers on each side which narrow the landing area. It is important to hit far enough from the tee to have a clear shot to the green. If you don't, then you could be left with a blind shot. It is a very small green, with a bunker to the front right. I favour a two- or three-iron from the tee, maybe a one-iron if the wind is against, and then go in with an eight or nine-iron. It can play easy, it can play tough.

HOLE 11 (411 yards, par 4)
A difficult tee shot from an elevated tee with water on the left. The second shot is testing because the green sits a little sideways on and there are bushes on the left and a big hollow on the right. It is best to miss the green on the right, because there is more trouble on the left, but it is still hard to get up and down from that hollow. One of the toughest holes on the course. Even if you are going in with a six- or seven-iron, it is difficult to get the ball on the green. It is time to play safe.

HOLE 12 (184 yards, par 3)
Another elevated tee to a slightly elevated green. It is a difficult hole because it might be as much as a four-iron, maybe a five. The green

is surrounded by mounds. You must hit the green or it is easy to put a bogey on your card.

HOLE 13 (475 yards, par 4)
I remember this is where, in 1976, Johnny Miller chipped in. It was once a recovery hole because it was an easy par five; you would be angry not to make a birdie. Now it is a hard par four. If you hit a good tee shot, avoiding the two bunkers on the right, then I think that from short of the cross-bunkers on the left you have a fair shot to the green. Usually the wind is with you, so the safe shot will be a one-iron off the tee. Going into a green with bunkers at the front will be hard with a long iron.

HOLE 14 (198 yards, par 3)
This is a good hole. It is a tough par three and needs a good three-iron, although that can depend on the pin placement, because the green is very deep. The green is well protected with bunkers on the left and on the right. When the wind blows across, it makes it terribly difficult to select the right club from an elevated tee.

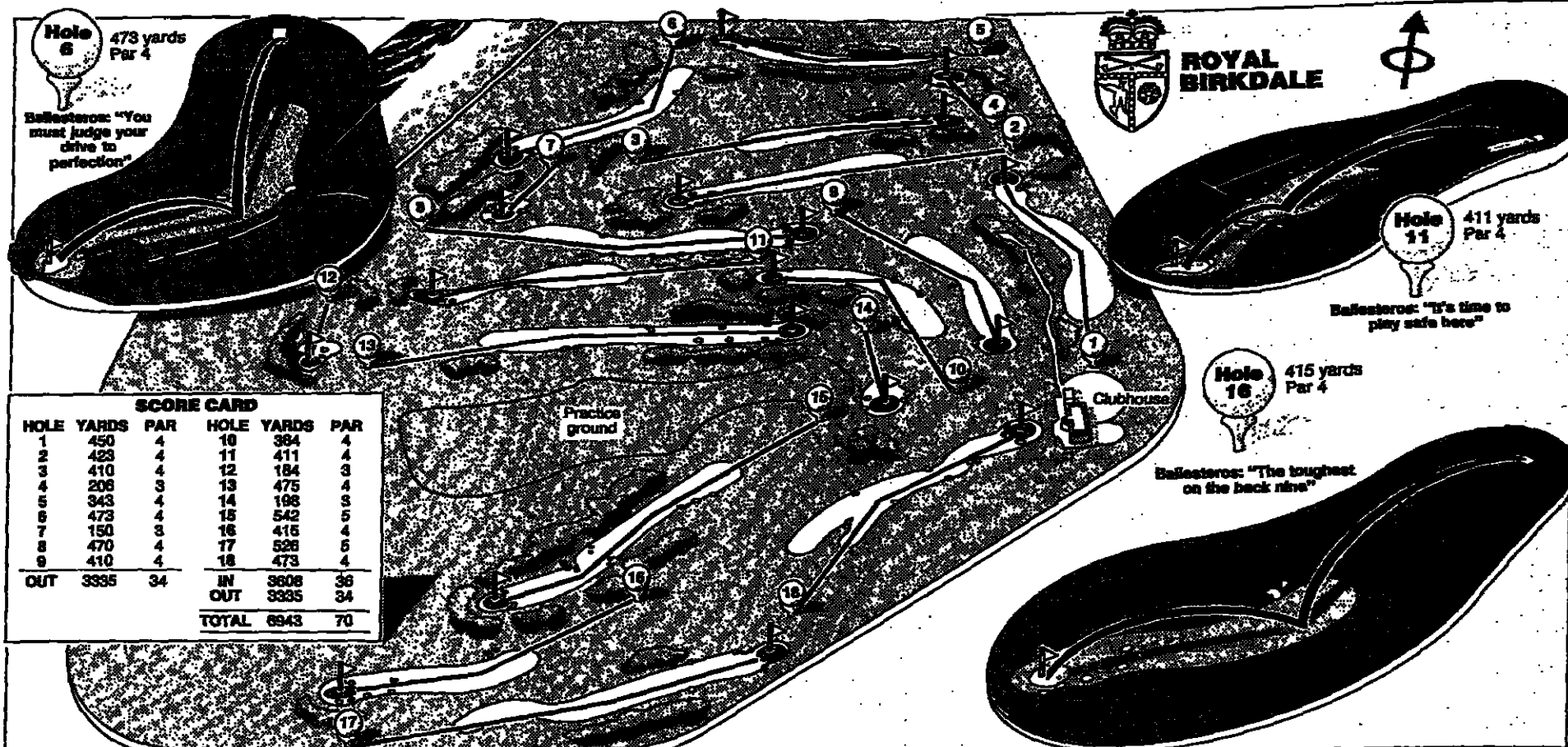
HOLE 15 (542 yards, par 5)
Cannot be reached in two. I have always played an iron from the tee, then another iron, then a pitching wedge. If you keep the ball in play, then, of course, it is a birdie chance. But still you must keep it straight, because the hole is very tight. Both sides are well protected with bunkers. To think about going for it in two, you would need a very strong wind behind you. Not a good idea to gamble here.

HOLE 16 (415 yards, par 4)
The toughest hole on the back nine. It plays very long and when

the wind is against, as it often is, then a driver is needed. The hole dog-legs a little to the right, with the corner well protected with bunkers. The green is elevated with bunkers both sides and there is also a hollow at the front and at the back. Again the green is a little small and also a little sideways on and very challenging. Usually, it is a driver and a five-iron. Where it is best to miss the green? You had better not. You had better hit it on the green.

HOLE 17 (526 yards, par 5)
This is a hole where usually the wind is with you. The most difficult thing is the tee shot. You have the two mounds, right and left, and unless you hit it between them, you can be in trouble. A good tee shot will provide a birdie chance. I remember that I hit a driver and four-iron once and then took one putt for an eagle. But the entrance to the green is tougher than before.

HOLE 18 (473 yards, par 4)
An extremely strong hole to finish. It is a tight driving hole with a tight second shot, too, because the green is narrow at the front. It becomes a little wider the further back you go, but it is still well protected with two bunkers on the left. I remember a good shot from there with a nine-iron: the one I saved par with in 1976. That was from the left but I think that is not the side to miss because the green goes away from you. I think if you are going to miss, then you must miss on the right. I can tell you it is going to be difficult to make a four to be champion. But I would like the chance.



HOLE	YARDS	PAR	HOLE	YARDS	PAR
1	450	4	10	311	4
2	423	4	11	411	4
3	410	4	12	184	3
4	266	3	13	475	4
5	343	4	14	198	3
6	473	4	15	542	5
7	150	3	16	415	4
8	470	4	17	526	5
9	410	4	18	473	4
OUT	3335	34	IN	3608	36
			OUT	3335	34
			TOTAL	6943	70

TEN TO FOLLOW BY MITCHELL PLATTS



Nick Faldo (GB)

Born: July 16, 1957. Majors: Open, 1987, 1990; Masters, 1989, 1990. Sony world ranking: 3. Earnings (August 1990-July 1991): \$255,307. Open form (1990-1991): 5-3-5-1-3-1-1. Course besting: 7-1. There is nowhere he is happier or, paradoxically, more exasperated than on the practice range. If he has the swing in the right slot, then all is well. If he detects a flaw, he will not rest until it is erased. Has won at Muirfield (1987) and St Andrews but he regards Royal Birkdale as the best. He appears to be more relaxed than he was for the Masters in April. A prolonged rest in winter appeared to hamper his touch. David Leadbetter, his coach, has supervised lengthy putting sessions but his chipping has not been as sharp as he would like.



Wayne Grady (Aus)

Born: July 26, 1957. Majors: US PGA, 1980; World ranking: 34. Earnings: \$274,294. Open form: DNP-DNP-DNP-17-38-2-4-MC. Betting: 50-1. A leftshander course with Charlie Epp has put the fire back in his belly or, more precisely, his putting stroke. Grady had lost his touch and with it his enthusiasm. So he took six weeks off, returning home to Queensland, to rest, relax and to see Epp. "I was having trouble holding on from far left, and inside," Grady said. "Charlie suggested a minor adjustment, I felt comfortable again and with that the interest returned." Grady's clutching the disappointment of losing in an Open play-off in 1988 by winning the US PGA Championship last August.



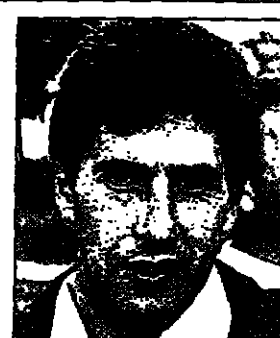
Severiano Ballesteros (Sp)

Born: April 9, 1957. Majors: Open, 1979, 1984, 1988; Masters, 1980, 1983. World ranking: 3. Earnings: \$781,478. Open form: 1-3-5-5-1-7-6-MC. Betting: 8-1. The people's champion. If one player can transform a tournament, it is Ballesteros. Twelve months ago, he lacked confidence. Three wins in six weeks earlier this year repeated the damage. The year of agonising taught Ballesteros much, and so has marriage and the birth of his first son. The age lines have been erased by a magic potion - winning. He still craves more majors and this week he will be consumed by the interest returned. Grady's clutching the disappointment of losing in an Open play-off in 1988 by winning the US PGA Championship last August.



Bernhard Langer (Ger)

Born: Aug. 27, 1957. Majors: Masters, 1985. World ranking: 9. Earnings: \$325,541. Open form: 2-3-17-52-19-43. Betting: 16-1. There is no player for whom one can have greater admiration. His manners are impeccable, his dedication to the game unwavering. Many believed when he first came on the scene that his professional career would be cut short by the putting yips. He has overcome the yips, not once but maybe four times with a combination of grips, although he now favours anchoring the left wrist with his right hand. Marvellous temperament helps him keep his equilibrium even when he is struggling to stay on the short and narrow.



José-Maria Olazábal (Sp)

Born: Feb. 6, 1966. Majors: None. World ranking: 2. Earnings: \$395,338. Open form: DNP-25-16-11-36-23-16. Betting: 12-1. Inclined to sow seeds of doubt on his game, although it might be his way of relieving the pressures. He came close at the Masters, runner-up to Woodman. Then eighth in the US Open at Hazlet. Those performances further whetted his appetite to win a major and underlined that he has the length now off the tee to conquer a championship course. His game is solid through the bag, although his putter has surprisingly betrayed him. At St Andrews last year, Olazábal played better from left to right than anybody including Faldo. Modest and patient, he would make a wonderful champion.

Prize fund

Winner: £90,000. Runner-up: £20,000. Third: £10,000. Fourth: £5,000. Fifth: £2,500. Sixth: £1,250. Seventh: £625. Eighth: £312.50. Ninth: £156.25. Tenth: £78.12. Open form: 1-3-5-5-1-7-6-MC. Betting: 8-1.

Birkdale winners

1954 P Thomson 72.71/80.71/283 67.50
1955 P Thomson 70.73/80.72/254 67.50
1956 P Thomson 74.62/71.22/255 67.50
1971 J Trevino 68.70/69.70/278 65.50
1979 J Miller 72.68/73.62/279 67.50
1983 T Watson 67.60/70.70/275 64.00

Last ten champions

1991 (St George's) W Rogers 276
1990 (St George's) T Watson 276
1989 (St George's) S Ballesteros 276
1988 (St George's) A Lyle 280
1987 (St George's) G Norman 280
1986 (St George's) S Ballesteros 275
1985 (St George's) S Ballesteros 275
1984 (St George's) N Faldo 270

Amateur wins

St. James, 1966, 1967, 1970, 2: H Hilton, 1962, 1967, 1: J Ball, 1960.

Leader every round

1983: W Auchterlonie, 1984 and 1985: J H Taylor, 1986: S Braid, 1987: T Ray, 1987: R Jones, 1988: G Sarazen, 1988: H Cotton, 1973: T Watson, 1973: T Watson.

Best recovery to win

After 18 holes: H Vardon (1896), from 11 strokes behind. After 36 holes: G Duncan (1929), from 13 behind. After 54 holes: J Sannes (1925), from five behind (G Norman was seven strokes behind in 1988 and lost in a play-off).

Open winners

Most wins: 6: H Vardon (1896, 1898, 1899, 1903, 1911, 1914), 5: J H Taylor (1894, 1895, 1900, 1905, 1913), J Braid (1901, 1905, 1906, 1908, 1910), P Thomson (1884, 1885, 1886, 1887, 1888, 1889, 1902, 1903, 1904, 1905, 1906, 1907, 1908, 1909, 1910, 1911, 1912, 1913, 1914, 1915, 1916, 1917, 1918, 1919, 1920, 1921, 1922, 1923, 1924, 1925, 1926, 1927, 1928, 1929, 1930, 1931, 1932, 1933, 1934, 1935, 1936, 1937, 1938, 1939, 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944, 1945, 1946, 1947, 1948, 1949, 1950, 1951, 1952, 1953, 1954, 1955, 1956, 1957, 1958, 1959, 1960, 1961, 1962, 1963, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1967, 1968, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991).

Prize fund

Winner: £90,000. Runner-up: £20,000. Third: £10,000. Fourth: £5,000. Fifth: £2,500. Sixth: £1,250. Seventh: £625. Eighth: £312.50. Ninth: £156.25. Tenth: £78.12. Open form: 1-3-5-5-1-7-6-MC. Betting: 8-1.

Birkdale winners

1954 P Thomson 72.71/80.71/283 67.50
1955 P Thomson 70.73/80.72/254 67.50
1956 P Thomson 74.62/71.22/255 67.50
1971 J Trevino 68.70/69.70/278 65.50
1979 J Miller 72.68/73.62/279 67.50
1983 T Watson 67.60/70.70/275 64.00

Last ten champions

1991 (St George's) W Rogers 276
1990 (St George's) T Watson 276
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Corey Pavin (US)

Born: Nov. 16, 1959. Majors: None. World ranking: 36. Earnings: \$642

